MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

4 MARCH 1982

Israel

Mitterrand Visit -- French President Francois Mitterrand arrived in Israel at the head of a delegation including External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson, Jerusalem radio reported. After being greeted by President Yitzhaq Navon, Mitterrand said in a speech broadcast by the radio that France will never retreat from the revival of French-Israeli friendship and respect represented by his visit, but added that France cannot be satisfied as long as peoples are in conflict and hopes that both nations together will expand their perspectives and solve their problems. The radio noted later that by "both nations" Mitterrand meant Israelis and Palestinians, and that his remarks on this topic did not gain Prime Minister Menahem Begin's approval.

In a meeting reported by the radio, Begin explained to Mitterrand the dangers a new Palestinian state would pose to Israel and the details of Israel's autonomy proposal for Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. The radio opined that Mitterrand apparently instructed his ministers to act consistently with his statement that he is a genuine friend of Israel. Cheysson, in an interview with MA'ARIV, said that the European initiative for resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict has been replaced by the view that the countries of the region should reach a solution by themselves. Cheysson also told Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir at a meeting reported by Jerusalem Radio that France will act to prevent Arab attempts to expel Israel from international organizations. Two of Mitterrand's advisers told an Israeli personality that France will help Israel renew diplomatic relations with some African countries and will cooperate with Israel in joint projects in those countries. Joint committees will also meet in a month to tighten economic and cultural ties, the radio said.

Navon, Begin and Mitterrand spoke at a state banquet in Mitterrand's honor. Jerusalem radio carried the speeches, in which Begin praised Mitterrand as a great friend of Israel, while Mitterrand said the source of the Middle East problem is that Israel and the Arabs have not yet established clear relations, despite the fact that Arabs and Jews are brothers from the same nation. Mitterrand added that it would be presumptuous for him to suggest solutions to the Jewish people or to other nations and maintained that those who live with the problem should resolve it. Referring to differences between Israel and France in the past 15 years, he said differences pass and the question requiring attention is how Israel can secure its existence forever.

Evacuation Measures -- On 3 March the IDF forcibly removed 60 antiwithdrawal movement settlers from Hazar Adar, south of Yamit, Jerusalem television reported. The IDF then removed the buildings and other property from the area, the television noted.

PLO

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio called Mitterrand's visit to Israel a biased move which is bound to jeopardize French interests in the region. If Israel had not submitted to the conditions of peace when isolated by France and Europe, how could it do so now when it is no longer isolated and its intransigence is at a peak, the radio asked. Claiming that Mitterrand has given the Palestinians nothing but protocol facilities of no political consequence, the radio said the Palestinians will tell him that the PLO holds the only key to peace.

Syria

Habib Mission -- U.S. presidential envoy Philip Habib and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad discussed a message from President Ronald Reagan to the Syrian leader, Damascus radio reported. Al-Asad asked Habib to convey a reply to Reagan, the radio said. Later in the day, Habib flew to Amman for a 2-day visit.

Golan Heights Protest -- Syria's UN ambassador has submitted a message to the UN secretary general protesting Israeli measures against Druze strikers in the Golan Heights, Damascus radio reported.

Relations With Jordan -- Citing accounts by travelers, Jerusalem radio reported that Syrian helicopters attacked a Jordanian Army border observation post on 24 February, hitting an armored vehicle. According to the report, Jordan did not publicize this or another shooting incident because it fears a worsening of the dispute with Syria.

Egypt

Autonomy Talks -- In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Butrus Ghali said that despite difficulties, Egypt will continue negotiations with Israel on Palestinian autonomy because there is no alternative, Cairo radio reported. Meanwhile, MENA noted that the Egyptian side to the tripartite technical committee on the autonomy negotiations suggested that the proposed Palestinian authority should enjoy all the powers of the present Israeli administration.

Border Demarcation, Sinai Withdrawal -- Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will visit Israel briefly on 8 March for talks with Israeli Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon on the border demarcation in Elat and Rafah, Jerusalem radio reported. According to MENA, the higher committee on the Sinai withdrawal will meet on 15 March instead of the 9th, as previously scheduled.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Speech -- In a speech to the General People's Congress reported by JANA, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi called for a revolution in Saudi Arabia, which he described as a greater danger to the Arab nation than Israel and the United States. Admitting that Libya has been unable to sell all its oil because buyers have turned to cheaper Saudi oil, Al-Qadhdhafi said the Saudis lied when they told the Libyans they had reduced production. Al-Qadhdhafi said his words are not meant for King Khalid and Prince 'Abdallah, who are innocent of the hoaxes perpetrated by Crown Prince Fahd and Prince Sultan, but are aimed against the "despicable ones."

Relations With Tunisia -- Tunisia has appointed an ambassador to Tripoli after a 2-year period in which representation in both countries was at charge d'affaires level, AFP reported.

General People's Committee -- Tripoli radio listed the secretaries of the new General People's Committee elected by the General People's Congress. 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi retains the post of secretary for foreign liaison, but Foreign Affairs Secretary 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki was not mentioned. New persons fill the posts of petroleum, treasury and education secretaries.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Saddam Husayn Speech -- In a speech to Jordanian Al-Yarmuk forces broadcast by Baghdad radio, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn praised Jordan and the YAR for standing with Iraq and expressed hope that other Arab rulers will be encouraged to follow their example. While Iraqi troops at the battlefront are in good condition and enjoy an excellent situation, he said, the presence of the Al-Yarmuk forces among them has a national meaning. Berating the Syrian regime for conspiring against Iraq over the last 14 years and for its present support for Iran, President Husayn said that when Iranian planes raided Iraq from Syria last year, the commander of Iraqi Air Defenses committed suicide because he believed he had not taken the necessary precautions.

Iraqi Deportees -- Iraq has deported around 1,500 Iraqi Muslims to western Iran, Tehran radio reported, forcing them to walk barefoot in icy conditions. Some deportees, who included pregnant women, children and old men, died from cold, hunger and landmines, the radio said.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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HUNGARIAN TV INTERVIEWS PLO'S YASIR 'ARAFAT

LD271328 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 2005 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Alajos Chrudinak interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat in the "Face to Face" program on 26 February; recorded -- 'Arafat answers in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Excerpt] [Question] To the best of my knowledge, the U.S. ambassador that Israel has informed the U.S. Government in a secret report that Israel is preparing to carry out 10 military actions by April of this year against Lebanon, Syria and the Palestinians. What is more, it is also stated in the message that they intend to destroy a nuclear reactor in Libya. What is the truth about this?

[Answer] Immediately before I arrived for an official visit to your friendly country, the Israeli Government held an important discussion with the participation of the Israeli military leaders. I have found out that they discussed the military situation in southern Lebanon. Thus we must prepare for every eventuality. Our Zionist enemy, Israel, particularly since the creation of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance and the signing of the cooperation agreement, has behaved in an extremely provocative manner.

[Question] What do you have in mind?

[Answer] What I have in mind is that Israel relies in all this on U.S. weapons. After all, as you also know, they are receiving the most modern weapons from the Americans. There is not a single modern weapon in the U.S. armory which is not at the disposal of the Israeli military clique.

[Question] By this you mean the U.S. Government is in full agreement with the Israeli military actions being prepared.

[Answer] Do not forget that the military clique in power in Israel will not take a single step until it receives the green light from the United States, until it receives encouragement from the U.S. administration. I would like to remind you in this connection what happened when Israel destroyed the Iraqi nuclear reactor and when, at the time of the most recent clashes, it bombed Beirut. The U.S. outrage was merely playacting. You also remember that the Americans said at that time they would not deliver the F-16 warplanes. One week later they announced they could continue the deliveries. Just a few days ago President Reagan himself said that the differences between the U.S. administration and Israel are just a quickly subsiding tempest in a teacup.

[Question] Does that mean therefore in your opinion that, regarding the Americans, there is no objection to Israel taking military action in the coming days or month? But what can be Israel's purpose? I have the feeling Israel, fearing possible U.S. pressure, is now trying to torpedo even the possibility of any kind of political settlement.

[Answer] In my opinion, it is the present circumstances that are playing a role here. Let us be honest. A serious crisis has developed among the Arab countries, particularly after the adjournment of the Fes summit. Israel would now like to make use of this situation. At the same time, it is endeavouring to gain advantages from the inter-Arab situation. It is trying to test the new system, to see how it will react.

[Question] What new system do you have in mind? Do you mean Egypt?

[Answer] Yes, Egypt. The question is how this administration will behave under the leadership of President Husni Mubarak. One must be aware that the president is very careful not to cause any trouble before Israel withdraws from the Sinai Peninsula. The U.S. support given to Israel plays a part in all this. Thus, the inter-Arab situation, the Israeli blackmail of Egypt and the encouragement which the Americans give to Israel -- these are the factors which motivate Israel to engage in military adventures.

[Question] You have also mentioned the Fes summit. This did not take place in the end. I believe the weakness of the common stand taken by the Arab countries, the diversity of their objectives and the absence of unified Arab conceptions and plans are all factors that undoubtedly play a part in ensuring that today Israel can do what it likes.

[Answer] You are right.

[Question] Someone has aptly remarked in this context that in this region Israel alone knows what it wants and where the current crisis is leading.

[Answer] We also know what we want and where this crisis is leading. This is something we also know. Do not forget that we are the most important factor in the Middle East equation.

[Question] Actually, I was not thinking of the PLO here but of Arab conduct in general.

[Answer] It is a fact that the bad state of inter-Arab relations is one of those factors encouraging Israel to be aggressive. This has been the case, particularly since the postponement of the Arab summit conference in Fes.

[Question] What was the reason for the postponement? If I am right, you firmly supported the Saudi Arabia Fahd plan. However, several Arab states opposed it and, what is more, there were also politicians within the PLO who rejected this plan.

[Answer] No, this had nothing to do with the postponement. The conference was postoponed for completely different reasons. These had nothing to do with the Saudi plan, which was put forward by Prince Fahd.

[Question] What was the reason?

[Answer] Arab differences.

[Question] In connection with the plan?

[Answer] No, not in connection with the plan. Unfortunately, differences arose even before we got down to discussions and thus the meeting was postponed.

[Question] What is your opinion of the Fahd plan?

[Answer] As I have already explained this before, I welcomed this -- well, what should I call it -- this plan, which is not really a plan. Let us be precise: These are merely proposals because Saudi Arabia submitted its proposals by noting they could become the subject of debate. So, we were dealing with their future discussion. I myself had certain comments with reference to the Saudi plan and I informed the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia about them. I held discussions with its leaders on this issue on several occasions.

[Question] What were these comments?

[Answer] Look, I would rather speak about this where and when we start discussing the Fahd plan, when the plan is again on the agenda of the Arab summit.

[Question] You visited the Soviet Union recently. I have heard that you undertook a certain mediation as well, to explain the Fahd plan. What happened in this connection?

[Answer] No, this question was not even raised in the course of my visit to the Soviet Union. We did not even touch on it.

[Question] And thereafter, when you visited Saudi Arabia? Because afterwards, Saudi Arabia stated that it was a part of the Fahd plan that the Soviet Union must also participate in the settlement.

[Answer] This was before my visit to the Soviet Union. As regards my observations concerning the Fahd plan -- are you forcing me now to talk about my observations?

[Question] Yes.

[Answer] My comments with regard to the Fahd plan included the observation that if Saudi Arabia was striving for a truly comprehensive and lasting settlement in the Middle East then the Soviet Union, too, must take part in it. I have told many Arab leaders that this is my view and I have explained this to the Saudis too. This was one of my observations concerning the Fahd plan. I cannot tell you more.

[Question] Do you consider it conceivable that now, following the annexation of the Golan Heights, amidst new Israeli threats, you will succeed in developing a united Arab position against Israel and the U.S. endeavors? Is this a possibility?

[Answer] Let me tell you something in this connection. It is unquestionably true that there is no united Arab position. Look, with us in the Arab world, there have always been and there always will be differences of this sort. In the end, however, we must come to an agreement. I know the Arab region well, where many things are built on quicksand. Nonetheless, there will be a solution eventually.

[Question] Brzezinski, Carter and Ford as well have said recently that there cannot be a Middle East settlement without the participation of the PLO. Brzezinski also said that the U.S. plans for the Middle East, based on Camp David, will quite simply collapse this spring. What is your opinion on this?

[Answer] Look, I told you before when you said that Israel was the only one who knew and so on, that we also know that we are the most important factor in the Middle East equation, and this is the Palestinian factor. There cannot be either a solution or calm in the Middle East if they do not acknowledge the rights of the Palestinian people.

[Question] Is the United States, the new administration, showing any willingness to begin a dialogue with the PLO?

[Answer] Unfortunately, up to the present time, no.

[Question] Has nothing happened?

[Answer] Nothing. However, we are sensing without any doubt a change in U.S. public opinion, among the U.S. people. According to our experience, various strata of the U.S. people are showing increasing understanding toward the Palestinian question, the just cause of the Palestinian people. The lies of Israeli propaganda are increasingly unmasked among them. Unfortunately, the U.S. administration is also participating in spreading these lies.

[Question] In an earlier question I already mentioned that the purpose of the current Israeli steps is perhaps precisely to prevent a change in U.S. conduct which might be unfavorable to Israel.

[Answer] This is a historical process which no one can stop. Look, we are not against the Jews. We Palestinians respect the Jews as a part of our national tradition, just as we respect Christianity and Islam, which are also organic parts of our traditions. We never speak about Jews because we are only against the Zionists. There is a great difference. The Palestinian parliament -- you also attended that session -- announced that we are willing to engage in a dialogue with any democratic and progressive Israeli force, inside and outside Israel alike.

[Question] Have such meetings come about?

[Answer] Yes, we have had meetings with many democratic and progressive Israeli forces.

[Question] According to this do you agree with Austrian Chancellor Kreisky's remark that there will be changes in Israel? If I am right, there were very close relations between you and Kreisky.

[Answer] Unquestionably.

[Question] In that case you agree with his statement?

[Answer] Certainly. I have very high esteem for Chancellor Kreisky, whom we regard as a friend of the Palestinian people. After all, he supports our just cause. This also proves what a great mistake it is to confuse Jewishness with Zionism. This is a sin.

[Question] This is because Kreisky is of Jewish origin.

[Answer] Yes, but he is not a Zionist.

[Question] In Israel, however, they say he is an anti-Semite. They accuse him of anti-Semitism because of his position regarding the Middle East question and the Palestinian people.

[Answer] But we are also Semites. Do not forget that the Arabs are also Semites. They are using expressions which are mere accusations.

[Question] In other words, they accuse everyone who opposes Israel's policies of being an anti-Semite.

[Answer] They accuse all those who oppose Israeli arrogance, those who oppose racial discrimination in Israel, oppression, official state terrorism and the organized persecution. Do not forget that Begin is on Interpol's wanted list. This is on the basis of the documents of the British police, according to which Begin is a terrorist.

[Question] Despite this, it appears as if Great Britain's position on the Middle East has moved closer to that of the United States.

[Answer] Yes, unfortunately. We have suffered a very great deal because of Great Britain. Just recall that we lived under the British mandate. We paid dearly for this. Sixty percent of my people are exiled and 40 percent live under occupation. We have paid a high price for the British mandate. Great Britain bears a heavy historical and moral responsibility for this.

[Question] Let us return to Kreisky. As I said earlier, Chancellor Kreisky has said that in the next 5 years a great many things will change in Israel. The chancellor considers that the Israeli people gradually will come to reject the racist policy directed against the Palestinian people. Do you agree with Kreisky that serious social and political changes might come about in Israel?

[Answer] Yes, I also believe that there will be changes. Only time will tell how quickly these will come about. However, it is certain that changes will happen. Several Israeli political forces are increasingly showing an understanding of reality, of the facts. Now I am not talking about justice but of realities. Let them first realize the realities of the Middle East, the fact that the Palestinians cannot be erased from history, that the Palestinian people cannot be rubbed off the political map.

[Question] With which Israeli political forces have you succeeded in starting a dialogue?

[Answer] We have a constant dialogue with the Israeli Communist Party, the Israeli Progressive Front, the SHELLI Movement and with a few other democratic, progressive Israeli forces. Do not forget that in the Palestinian movement, in our revolution, there are also Jews who fight with us. The Israelis have imprisoned many of them; many are still in prison because they have fought with the Palestinian revolution.

[Question] Are these Israelis or Palestinian Jews:

[Answer] Israeli Jews.

[Question] We have spoken about Kreisky. There have been views in Europe, according to which differences of views have arisen between you and Chancellor Kreisky. This was because, as some people claim, Kreisky did not agree with the fact that you allegedly "had welcomed" the assassination of Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat. Afterward, you met Kreisky in Kuwait, if I am right.

[Answer] No, it was in Abu Dhabi.

[Question] So, what is the truth regarding these differences in views?

[Answer] No, there has been no argument or a difference of views between us. On the contrary, I highly appreciate -- as, indeed, my people highly esteem -- his courageous and principled standpoint. This is because I am well aware that Kreisky has had a lot of trouble because of this. He is attacked in Israel for his courageous stand on the side of the just cause of the Palestinian people and for his humanist conviction.

[Question] At one time there were good relations between you and the late President as-Sadat.

[Answer] Indeed, that is so.

[Question] Well, what did the one-time good friends quarrel about?

[Answer] My relations with Anwar as-Sadat began a very long time ago. I had known him even before the 1952 Revolution, the July 1952 Revolution of an-Nasir. You know, at that time, I was an officer in the Egyptian Army. I fought with the Egyptian people against the British occupation. This is how I came into contact with President as-Sadat, then with President an-Nasir and many other leaders of the Egyptian revolution. The differences between myself and As-Sadat were not personal. We did not agree politically. I opposed As-Sadat's policy, particularly the Camp David separate peace. Camp David is a conspiracy against us. It is a conspiracy against the Palestinian people, as I have said on a number of occasions.

[Question] Let me ask you again, if you permit me, how did your differences in views begin?

[Answer] Our differences began on the day As-Sadat decided he wanted to start out on the Camp David road.

[Question] If I am right, he invited you to the Egyptian parliament on that very day. So what happened?

[Answer] He told me there that he was going to Jerusalem.

[Question] How did that happen?

[Answer] At that time I was mediating between Libya and Egypt, after a war broke out on the border between the two countries, between the Libyans and the Egyptians or, rather, between the Egyptian Army and the Libyan Army. As a result of my endeavors and those of the late President Boumedienne, we succeeded in stopping this war. However, I carried on with my mediation.

I mediated between President as-Sadat and Chief of State al-Qadhdhafi. When on 9 November 1977, I returned from one such journey to Cairo, I was told that As-Sadat was waiting for me in the parliament building. We met at the gates and entered the building together. We were together for only about 5 minutes. During this time I told him that I had brought much news from Chief of State al-Qadhdhafi. He answered: Not now, after the speech. First we both give a speech and then leave together.

[Question] So you did not know what he wanted to announce?

[Answer] It came unexpectedly when he announced that he was travelling to Jerusalem. At first I thought this was a slip of the tongue; that he said this in his excitement. When we left the parliament, I asked him: Are you going to Jerusalem? What does this mean? To occupied Jerusalem? I left Cairo on that very day.

[Question] Why did you decide to do that?

[Answer] I left him because I realized what he wanted to do. I did not even finish my conversation with him. I think that was the last conversation between us.

[Question] If I am right, that was when you first met Husni Mubarak, the present Egyptian president.

[Answer] No, this was not the first time. I have known President Mubarak for a long time, particularly since he acceded to the post of vice president. On that day I came with him from the parliament, in his car.

[Question] And what did he say to you?

[Answer] He tried to persuade me to stay. I told him that I could not stay.

[Question] Did he agree with this step by President as-Sadat?

[Answer] Naturally, I do not know whether he agreed with it or not. But he tried to persuade me to stay. However, I told him that after this I had to leave.

[Question] Well, let us stay with Mubarak for the moment. You said before that a great deal will depend on the direction which Egypt will take. What is your opinion of Husni Mubarak? In your view, what direction is Egypt taking now?

[Answer] Look, I tell you I have never lost my faith in the Egyptian people and the Egyptian Army. When the differences between me and As-Sadat became very sharp, even then I said that the night which enveloped Egypt could not last long, because I believe that this marvellous people and this marvellous army, who have made so many sacrifices for Palestine and the Palestinian people, will eventually line up with the Arab nation. As regards President Mubarak, I would rather wait and see what happens. This is not a matter of personalities but of politics.

[Question] However, if I am not mistaken, you said recently that the map of the Middle East will change in the future. What is more, it will happen this April. Presumably you meant the Israeli withdrawal.

[Answer] No, I did not say that it will change in April. I said it will be in the next 6 months.

[Question] Because Israel will withdraw in April?

[Answer] This is something that must certainly be taken into consideration. However, this is only one of the factors. Naturally, all those concerned with the Middle East and who study the situation there know well that Israel's complete withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula is another stage along the road which is ahead of us, one of many stages.

[Question] So, Israel is going to withdraw?

[Answer] In my opinion, the likelihood of an Israeli withdrawal increased after Israel, 48 or more precisely 72 hours ago, agreed that Europeans should also participate in the international military force and observers in the Sinai. In my opinion, this increased the likelihood of a withdrawal. However, this does not mean -- you see how precisely I am putting this -- I am talking about the likelihood of a withdrawal. After all, I do not altogether discard the possibility of their not withdrawing.

[Question] What will happen after the Israelis vacate the Sinai Peninsula? In your opinion, what direction is President Mubarak going to take? Is he going to return to the Arab countries?

[Answer] Well, this is an extremely delicate question. However, it is a fundamental issue of our times. I have some ideas on this but let me not talk about these. I would rather wait and see what happens.

[Question] Do you intend to meet Mubarak in the near future?

[Answer] Look, it is not personalities that are important but politics.

[Question] I am thinking of a meeting between you and Husni Mubarak to clear up issues.

[Answer] That depends on the way in which Egyptian policies develop.

[Question] But the problem is still....

[Answer -- interrupting] We cannot be accused of anything. Do not forget it is the Palestinian people who have paid the highest price for Camp David from the beginning.

[Question] At the same time, the way I see it is that the plan of the United States has run into a blind alley. What do I base this on? Kissinger's idea was that the Arabs would reach peace with Israel in exchange for Israel returning the occupied territories. Of course, this was to be a U.S. peace, a pax Americana, which would have guaranteed U.S. influence throughout the Middle East. However, withthe Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights and east Jerusalem, the U.S. peace ideas are finished.

[Answer] Where is peace? The fundamental idea of the U.S. peace process has come to an end with the annexation. Camp David ran into a blind alley. The U.S. policy ran into a blind alley. Everyone must see this. This is not something that only I am saying; this is the view of certain U.S. circles as well. Three former U.S. presidents, Carter, Ford and Nixon, as well as Brzezinski, recently have said things about the Palestinian people and the Liberation Organization, statements which demonstrate that the Camp David process has run into a blind alley. It is the view of America's West European allies as well that Camp David has run into a blind alley. But who told you Kissinger wants peace? On the contrary, Kissinger was working on the realization of the plan of strengthening the Israeli occupation, of helping the Israeli occupiers. As you remember, when Israelis demonstrated in Jerusalem against Kissinger, he told them: In the future you will come to realize what a great service I have done for Israel.

[Question] Yes, but what possibilities have the Arab countries of forcing the United States to exert pressure on Israel?

[Answer] Look, I believe we have tremendous possibilities which the Arab countries have not utilized yet. When General [word indistinct], the French general, after 1967, in the wake of the 1967 defeat, visited the region, the Israelis invited him and took him to the front, the Egyptian-Jordanian front. The general said the following to the Israeli soldiers who were drunk with victory: You did not win because you are so strong but because of the shortcomings of your enemies.

[Question] In other words, their weakness?

[Answer] No, on the negative features. Not their weakness. We committed serious mistakes. We had strength but we could not make full use of it.

[Question] Anyway, is there scope for using such strength?

[Answer] Yes, definitely. This is why I have said to you that the historical process is in our favor. Time is on our side. Sooner or later the Arab nation will find the solution.

[Question] Look, I do not wish to raise various social issues now. It is not my intention to deal with the problems of the Arab regimes here because I am aware that you are a great diplomat. I know that it represents a great problem for your organization that it is forced to strike a balance in the atmosphere of Arab antagonisms. It has to come to agreements with the most diverse regimes. This is indeed a difficult business.

[Answer] No, on the contrary. We acknowledge the faults, because we live with the realities. In our political struggle we are endeavoring to put an end to these differences of views between Arabs. This is one of our fundamental goals. This is why we are mediating inside the Islamic committee, in the Nonaligned Movement, in order to put an end to the war between Iraq and Iran. However, we are also mediating to end the conflict involving Algeria, Libya and Morocco. We often mediate in order to eliminate differences between the Arabs because we are well aware that these conflicts are the cause of our weakness; they are detrimental to the joint Arab cause and make their affect felt first and foremost on the Palestinian issue.

[Question] This is indeed so.

[Answer] Thus we are not afraid of speaking about the negative aspects because this is the only way to overcome them.

[Question] But many social scientists believe that first social changes have to occur in the Arab world for the Arab countries to be able to solve their burning national problems.

[Answer] There is no doubt that changes are necessary. However, I do not agree with you that it is only social changes that are needed. Radical political changes must be carried out at every level.

[Question] Specifically what do you have in mind?

[Answer] Look, the Arab states and the Arab people must first of all change the political direction which they have pursued up till now. They must recognize who are their friends and who are their enemies. They must differentiate between friend and enemy. They must restore the military, political and economic-strategic equilibrium, the balance of strength which has been upset in the region. Naturally, the role of the people, of the masses, must also be taken into consideration. That is why the Palestinian revolutions talks about a lengthy, popular liberation struggle.

[Question] Perhaps I oversimplify matters but I am conviced -- and this is what I have experienced in the Arab countries -- that the Arab peoples see these problems quite clearly and are aware of what they should do. However, those in power, while generous in their statements with high-sounding pronouncements and promises, quickly change their opinions when the situation becomes serious and demands action. Thus, how is it possible to harmonize the activities of the leaders with the wishes of the peoples? That is why I raised the social issues earlier.

[Answer] I agree with you. This is one of the great problems of the Arab nation and also of the Palestinian revolution. I agree about the problem which you spoke of earlier. Unquestionably, the Arab leaders should act in harmony with their peoples. I agree with you.

[Question] The war between Iraq and Iran has been going on for 18 months. You have mentioned endeavors at mediation. Indeed, you yourself personally participated in these endeavors. However, we have not yet heard about the results. The war is continuing.

[Answer] Unfortunately, that is so.

[Question] In your opinion, why is this war still going on? Why was your mediation unsuccessful?

[Answer] Because there are forces which want this war to continue. Yet this war does not serve the interests of either the Iraqi or the Iranian people, just as it seriously harms the interests of the Arab nation, the peoples of the region and the Palestinian revolution. I continue to profess and do my best to stopping this war. Its prolongation harms everyone. Only U.S. imperialism benefits from it. The U.S. fleet could hardly have sailed into the Gulf had this war not broken out.

[Question] As for the Israeli annexation of the Golan Heights, it seems to me that Syria is not in a position to give a military response to this. What is your opinion of this?

[Answer] I cannot speak on behalf of my Syrian brothers. This is a question which you must ask them.

[Question] But in the present balance of forces....

[Answer -- interrupting] I cannot speak about this if only as a matter of tact.

[Question] What I have in mind is that Egypt's exit upset the balance of strength and made it necessary for Syria to restore it strategically.

[Answer] Unquestionably Egypt's exit had an influence on the eastern front. This is beyond doubt. This is why I have said that the strategic balance of strength must be restored.

[Question] Is there a possibility that Syria will restore this strategic balance? I am thinking of the internal possibilities of the Arab countries, of the support they can give to Syria.

[Answer] I would prefer it if you asked the Syrians about this. I cannot speak on their behalf. It is true that I am linked to them by strategic ties but I feel that I am not entitled to speak on their behalf.

[Question] Do you find it conceivable that in the present situation, when Syria and Saudi Arabia and Libya and Saudi Arabia [word indistinct], they will take up the Fahd plan again? Naturally, with certain changes.

[Answer] First of all, I must tell you that the Fahd plan continues to be on the agenda of the Arab summit. When the summit was postponed, including all 24 points on the agenda. The Saudi plan is the fourth of these.

[Question] In other words, it is possible that this question will be raised again.

[Answer] Certainly, this must be discussed at any Arab summit that is to be held. I have already mentioned that the summit was postponed together with all the points on the agenda.

[Question] That is clear. I have heard, or rather I have read in certain Palestinian papers published in Beirut, that the United States is behind the Fahd plan, that the plan came about with the permission and agreement of the United States, precisely in order to save Camp David and to ensure the continuation of Camp David.

[Answer] I do not share this opinion. You might also have observed that there has not been a single positive opinion expressed in the United States concerning the Saudi plan.

[Question] But Reagan praised the plan.

[Answer] Only a single clause.

[Question] That is clause seven.

[Answer] Yes. Thus there is no clear U.S. position in this connection.

[Question] Do you think they did not inform the United States about the plan?

[Answer] Look, naturally I have not forgotten the close ties which link the United States and Saudi Arabia. Naturally, they constantly exchange opinions but, according to our information, the United States did not give their agreement to the Saudi plan, even if they knew about it.

[Question] You mean beforehand?

[Answer] They knew about it. I do not know whether they knew beforehand or not, but they knew about it. I think they learned about it when Prince Fahd met President Reagan in Cancun.

[Question] As for clause seven of the Fahd plan, the United States rightly interpreted this clause as representing the recognition of Israel. A great deal is being said about this in the world these days. The U.S. administration, President Reagan and Begin charge you with not wanting to recognize Israel.

[Answer] That is a blatant Israeli-American lie.

[Question] That is to say, they accuse you of not recognizing Israel, of wanting to drive the Jews into the sea and of wanting to destroy Israel.

[Answer] First of all, the notion of driving the Israelis into the sea is a slander and a big lie. Do not forget that. The Palestine National Council has already submitted two proposals for a settlement, that is to say no fewer than two proposals. The first was made in 1969 when we declared that our objective was the establishment of a democratic state in which Muslims, Christians and Jews would live together in one democratic state. Israel rejected this solution. Afterwards, we proposed in 1974 the establishment of a Palestinian state in any part of Palestine that is liberated or from where the Israeli forces are withdrawn. This was the resolution of our highest constitutional organ, the Palestine National Council, and it is still in force today. This, too, was rejected by Israel. Therefore, the claim made by the Zionists that we want to drive the Jews into the sea is a barefaced lie. Not a single Palestinian politician has said anything of the kind. This is merely misleading propaganda and it is a transparent lie being spread by the Zionist leaders and certain circles of international imperialism and it is being done to discredit the Palestinian people.

This question, that is, the recognition of Israel -- let us be quite frank with each other -- I ask the world public: Is it not an injustice that they demand more and more concessions from the victim? And for whom? For the occupiers, for the conquerors, for those who chased 60 percent of our people away from their homeland and who keep the other 40 percent under occupation. Our share is terror, living in exile, murder, the organized bloodbath, the official state terror. After all this, they demand from the victim that he should recognize his oppressor?

I would answer this in the following way: Why is it that Israel does not recognize the UN resolutions that call for the establishment of a Palestinian state? Israel is the only state that was founded on the basis of a UN resolution. In spite of that, it is the only state that does not recognize a single resolution of the United Nations.

[Question] Not even the 1947 UN resolution which prescribed the creation of the Palestinian state.

[Answer] It does not recognize any of the UN resolutions. There is no UN resolution which Israel has accepted. Why is that? It is because the United States is encouraging Israeli aggression. The United States is giving them very great support. They give Israel military, financial and political help. This support is unlimited.

[Question] Certain Western politicians raise the point that your organization should recognize Israel, if only for merely tactical reasons, because in this way the true intentions of the United States and Israel can be revealed. They would finally have to show their true colors.

[Answer] They have never reacted to any of the positive initiatives that we have made. They are simply not prepared to talk about our future. They just go on demanding further concessions from us. But we cannot play around with the future of the Palestinian people as though it were a game of poker. No single Palestinian leader can sacrifice our just cause for the sake of some political adventurism or tactical game.

[Question] However, if a Palestinian state were to be established and Israel were to abandon its Zionist expansionist policy, how would the situation then develop in the Middle East? Do you consider it conceivable that some kind of peaceful coexistence might be established between a future Palestinian state and the State of Israel?

[Answer] You must bear in mind one essential point: Before I talk about the future with regard to Israel, I must speak, first of all, of what kind of fate awaits my people, the Palestinian refugees who were driven from the homeland by the use of arms -- 60 percent of whom have become people without a home and the other 40 percent of whom live in the shadow of Israeli weapons.

You should ask me first about the fate and rights of my people. Afterwards, you may ask questions about other issues as well. Do not ask the Palestinian people for anything of this kind until is obtains its just rights.

[Question] What are those just rights?

[Answer] We do not demand the impossible. We only demand those rights which are recognized by the United Nations as well, that is, international legality.

[Question] In other words, the creation of a Palestinian state.

[Answer] The lawful national rights recognized by the United Nations: returning to our country, self-government and the right to found our independent state.

[Question] On the West Bank of the Jordan and in the Gaza Strip?

[Answer] We shall create our independent state as prescribed by international laws and resolutions.

[Question] We shall create our independent state as prescribed by international laws and resolutions.

[Question] In your opinion, when can this come about?

[Answer] Despite all the difficulties, I can see the hopeful light of dawn; the growing darkness signals the coming of the dawn. My people will gain their rights sooner or later.

[Question] How many states recognize your organization?

[Answer] Twice as many as recognize Israel, more than twice as many -- 117 states.

[Question] How many Palestinians are there?

[Answer] There are approximately 4 million of us.

[Question] What are your plans for the future?

[Answer] I have many plans.

[Question] For example?

[Answer] It is better if you will hear about them. [as heard]

[Question] Where are you going after your visit to Hungary?

[Answer] Naturally, I have very many plans, but I do not like to speak about them.

[Question] Is it a secret?

[Answer] No, it is not at all a secret but deeds speak for themselves.

[Question] In your opinion, when will the aborted Arab summit conference meet again?

[Answer] It will not meet in the near future. Nonetheless, we will hold it.

[Question] There will be a great deal to talk about now. Why do you not call for the earliest possible convening of the summit conference?

[Answer] I am trying to do that. Unfortunately, I know the potentialties of the Arab world. This is a many-sided, complex equation.

[Question] Do you think you will be able to influence the Arab Leaders in the future as well?

[Answer] I will try, just as other Arab leaders are also endeavoring to do so. We are facing events which will bring radical changes in the history of the Arab nation. We have arrived at a strategic turning point.

[Question] Is it possible that a new war might break out?

[Answer] At the beginning of our conversation I told you that Israel was conducting troops concentrations, that it blockaded the shores of Lebanon; Israeli settlements have become everyday events and preparations are underway for a comprehensive military action. [presumably cut by Budapest television during editing]

[Question] What can you do about it? What will your response be if this happens?

[Answer] Just as we have stood our ground until now, we shall continue to hold our own. Just recall what Israeli General Gur said: These are people who are ready to die. The Palestinian people are determined to fight and to resist till victory.

[Question] Thank you for the conversation.

FATAH'S AL-HASAN ON VARIOUS MIDEAST ISSUES

PM020851 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 26 Feb 82 pp 22-24

[Interview granted by Khalid al-Hasan, member of the Fatah Central Committee, to Farid al-Khatib in London -- date not specified]

[Excerpts] [Question] Can you say that the danger of war is southern Lebanon has now receded following the warnings to Israel from the United States and the Soviet Union?

[Answer] It is quite possible that it has receded, but we must realize at the same time that the Zionist leadership headed by Israeli Government chief Menahem Begin always follows a course of surprises and exploits any international situation in order to achieve its objectives, as it did in annexing the Golan Heights immediately following the failure of the Fes conference. It exploited the disrupted Arab situation and the U.S. preoccupation with Poland to take this step, with which it surprised everybody, including the United States. But U.S.-Israeli relations in the end pushed the United States to side with Israel, just as similar relations have pushed all of the West to side with Israel.

AL-HAWADITH: With regard to the Soviet stand, it was said that the warning it served on Israel concerned the Syrian forces more than it did the PLO. Also, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] stated that the figure cited regarding the sale of Soviet arms to the resistance is not correct and that the Soviet Union has not provided any sophisticated weapons. What is your opinion?

Khalid al-Hasan: The Soviet warning was issued in order to prevent a war in the Middle East. The Soviet stand of friendly relations with some of the Arab countries is always based on a defensive and not an offensive posture. This is the general policy that governs the Soviet line, and it could be one of the main factors determining its policy toward armament.

AL-HAWADITH: Is there any change in the Soviet Union's stand on armament in its relations with the PLO?

Khalid al-Hasan: There is no change, but there is development, though slow. The Soviet political attitude toward the PLO is continuously developing.

AL-HAWADITH: We have noticed that the Arab summit did not meet following Israel's annexation of the Golan Heights and that the Arab foreign ministers conference met more than 2 months after the annexation announcement. How can the Arab countries reply to Israel's annexation of the Golan?

Khalid al-Hasan: What happened recently in this regard could be an indication of an understanding reached by all the parties. It is true that no official meetings were held, but there were contacts among all the Arab countries and agreement was reached among them. As a result the Arab countries adopted a unified stand at the General Assembly. The recent Arab League Council meeting in Tunis was able to discuss the implementation of the General Assembly resolution because all the preceding steps were already agreed through the intensive contacts that took place among the Arab countries.

AL-HAWADITH: How can the establishment of a Palestinian state be achieved in a weak Arab situation?

Khalid al-Hasan: There is no doubt that the continuing Palestinian struggle, foremost within it the struggle of our people in the occupied territories, has given Palestinian diplomacy a driving force to achieve success on the international level. But such political success as is continuously being achieved worldwide can be turned into material gain on the ground only through genuine Arab solidarity that has clear objectives, is serious in its commitment and is expressed through daily actions.

AL-HAWADITH: Some Palestine National Council [PNC] members are suggesting expanding the dialogue with the Israeli democratic forces, so that it is not restricted to the RAKAH Party but includes other parties such as the "Peace Now" Movement, which recognizes the PLO and calls for withdrawal from the territories occupied in 1967 as well as recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of a state of their own. Do you support such a viewpoint?

Khalid al-Hasan: This is not just a viewpoint but a clear resolution adopted by the PNC, which it confirmed at its recent meetings with the aim of strengthening dialogue and dealing with the forces that support the PLO's interim objectives. Therefore, this is a political line adopted by the PNC. The talk about it now, I would imagine, deals with the implementation of this policy.

AL-HAWADITH: During his recent visit to Washington, Israeli intelligence chief Yehushu'a Sagi submitted a plan for applying the cease-fire in Lebanon to all fedayeen operations against Israel. Can such a result be achieved and, if so, in return for what political benefit?

Khalid al-Hasan: Absolutely no such result can be achieved, because as long as there is occupation, armed struggle and the resistance to occupation must continue. Such Israeli talk is a kind of arrogance; we have become used to it.

AL-HAWADITH: What political benefits would the PLO ask for in return for reaching such an agreement through Ambassador Philip Habib?

Khalid al-Hasan: The continuation of struggle has nothing to do with any political stand. What we ask from the United States is clear, namely, recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and official dialogue with it. This demand has nothing to do with any other struggle attitude, because struggle can never stop as long as aggression exists.

AL-HAWADITH: During your recent visit to Kuwait you met with Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil [leading Phalangist Party member]. What was the outcome of that meeting?

Khalid al-Hasan: We exchanged views frankly and clearly about the Palestinian presence in Lebanon and the Lebanese problem in general. [Lebanese Chamber of Deputies] Speaker Kamil al-As'ad and the rest of the Lebanese delegation took part in the discussion. It was agreed to continue the dialogue between the PNC and the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies in the hope that in the end a formula would be worked out, through which everybody would be able to work for the unity of the Lebanese people and the integrity of Lebanese territory and which would also enable the legitimate Lebanese authority to exercise its powers in full and the Palestinian revolution to organize and coordinate its operation without hindrance or harm to the principal interests of the Palestinian people's struggle.

The results of this meeting are to be put to the Palestinian command, and if they are approved, a series of meetings will begin between a delegation representing the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies and one representing the PNC.

AL-HAWADITH: Would this dialogue pave the way for a meeting between Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] and [Phalangist military leader] Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil?

Khalid al-Hasan: Everything is possible if intentions are sincere, the objectives are clear and the wrong ideas and misconceptions that prevailed in the Lebanese atmosphere in the past are abandoned.

AL-HAWADITH: Some observers see a certain coolness in relations between the PLO and Saudi Arabia following the Fes summit last year and before a recent Palestinian statement criticizing the setting up of a joint Saudi-U.S. committee. How can normal relations be restored?

Khalid al-Hasan: I believe the full and final stands at the Fes conference were supposed to be adopted at the summit which did not take place. Therefore, there is no final stand in this regard, because the question of final stands has not yet been discussed at summit level. It is true it was discussed at the foreign ministers conference, but those who know how matters usually proceed know that the summit often adopts stands that have nothing to do with what went on at the foreign ministers conference. So I cannot see that what happened at the foreign ministers conference has led to any strain in relations between the PLO and any Arab countries. I cannot imagine that Palestinian-Saudi relations need to be restored to normalcy, because they are already normal.

As for those statements [criticizing the setting up of a joint Saudi-U.S. committee], which are not being made for the first time, they represent personal views, because the official decision is taken by the PLO Executive Committee, which would not take any decisions that would interfere in the domestic affairs of another country. The arms which Saudi Arabia is obtaining from the Western camp and particularly the United States represents nothing new. It is known that Saudi Arabia has no relations with the Soviet Union and its arms are Western, like several Arab countries, even including those which obtain arms from the Soviet Union.

So far Saudi Arabia has not failed to give arms aid to the Palestinian revolution. The Western rifle that Saudi Arabia buys is in the hands of the Palestinian fighter. The question is not a political one, as it is thought to be, particularly since arming from the East or the West is not a matter of choice but subject to various international political considerations.

AL-HAWADITH: Is it true that the PLO is mediating with a view to establishing relations between Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Union?

Khalid al-Hasan: I cannot say that there is mediation, but I can say that there is a Palestinian stand which believes that international political conditions require Arab countries that have no diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union to establish such relations, because they would be contributing to maintaining a balance between the powers instead of conflict between them. I believe the recent statements by Amir Fahd and Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal show a clear realization of the importance of the Soviet Union in the Middle East conflict.

AL-HAWADITH: President Saddam Husayn has urged all the Arab states to join Iraq in its war against Iran on the grounds that this is a pan-Arab cause. Some observers see the Iraqi-Iranian war as a war indirectly against Israel. What is your opinion?

Khalid al-Hasan: We in the PLO have undertaken the role of mediator to end this war. We therefore cannot be a party to the conflict, because that would cancel out our mediation, which is acceptable to both sides.

AL-HAWADITH: It seems that Arab and international mediation efforts are unlikely to succeed for the time being, and that more sides are joining in the war.

Khalid al-Hasan: There is no indication that other sides are joining in this war. What is clear is that the international community is keeping quiet about the war and is happy to see it grind on and on, because this war means the ultimate exhaustion of the two warring parties. This is one of the reasons why we are working to end this war, regardless of what is happening. As for Iraq, it is natural that the Arabs should support it because Iraq is one of the major Arab powers, which should not be abandoned, but priority should be given to ending the war, not escalating it.

AL-HAWADITH: How did you lose the Iran card? At the beginning the Iranian Islamic revolution was an ally of the PLO, but it has recently been revealed that Iran has an armaments relationship with Israel.

Khalid al-Hasan: It is natural for any leadership to behave in accordance with the interests of its cause, irrespective of profit or loss. The objective of one's struggle is the basis of all relations. There are several reasons for the freezing of relations with Iran. One reason is the Iraqi-Iranian war. We have refused to take a major stand on it because we believe it should stop, and we believe the two warring parties should come to the negotiating table. Iran still rejects this position, and this naturally affects our relations with it. It would be a very regrettable matter indeed if armaments relations did exist between Iran and Israel. We do not know if this is true or not.

AL-HAWADITH: Is it true it was the PLO which fed the Bahraini authorities information about the possibility of a subversive operation there around the end of last year?

Khalid al-Hasan: This is absolutely untrue. We have nothing whatever to do with that matter. We were in fact surprised by what happened in Bahrain. We do not concern ourselves with such matters anyway.

AL-HAWADITH: Certain U.S. and Israeli circles are already attacking President Husni Mubarak for turning to the Arabs and the Soviet Union. Will the Arab states leave Egypt to Israel or go on a fraternal offensive to bring Egypt back to the Arab fold? How does the PLO stand on this issue?

Khalid al-Hasan: I do not see that President Husni Mubarak is turning to the Arabs or the Soviet Union. Husni Mubarak himself explained when he was in Washington that the Egyptian-Soviet contacts regarding the return of some Soviet experts to finish the projects they started in Egypt did not mean the revival of special relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union. The West, however, is alarmed even by the mere possibility of a revival of the Arab tone in Egypt. It is therefore expressing alarm as a protective measure to prevent Egypt from returning to the Arab fold. So far, the only new sign that we see in Husni Mubarak's policy is that he is advocating self-determination for the Palestinian people and is calling for a dialogue between the United States and the Palestinian people. He seems to have learned a lot from the results of As-Sadat's policy on the Palestine question. Apart from this, I do not see any changes or new approaches in the Egyptian attitude. On the contrary, President Husni Mubarak is still saying that Egypt is there and that the Arabs should go back to it, because it was the Arabs who drew away from it. This kind of talk is regrettable at this stage. I believe at present we should wait and see. If after a while we see Mubarak's policy as one of effective return to the Arab ranks -- and not merely of saying "let bygones be bygones" and keeping everything as it is -- then it will be the Arabs' duty to help Egypt return to the Arab fold.

USSR DEPUTY MINISTER MEETS PLO'S AL-FAHUM

JN031856 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Damascus -- A meeting was held at the PLO Information and Culture Department in Damascus yesterday between Comrade Yuriy Barabash, the first deputy minister of the USSR Ministry of Culture and the head of the Committee for Friendship With the Arab People, and a large group of Palestinian intellectuals, writers and journalists in Syria.

Brother 'Abdallah Hurani, director of the PLO Information and Culture Department, welcomed Comrade Barabash, expressed pride in the meeting and praised the Soviet Union's role in championing the Palestinian cause and promoting Palestinian culture.

Comrade Barabash delivered a speech in which he conveyed feelings of solidarity and greetings from the USSR-Palestinian Friendship Committee and from the entire Soviet people. He spoke about the role and acivities of the USSR-Palestinian Friendship Committee.

Yesterday, Brother Khalid al-Fahum, speaker of the Palestine National Council, received Comrade Barabash. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by Brother Abu Mazin [Mahumud 'Abbas], Fatah Central Committee member and head of the Union of Palestinian Societies for Friendship With the Peoples' and Fadl Shururu, member of the Union's Executive Bureau. On the USSR side, the meeting was attended by the USSR ambassador in Damascus and the embassy staff.

The two sides comprehensively reviewed the situation in the Middle East in light of the Zionist onslaught against the PLO and the Palestinian people, the increasing Zionist arrogance and the continued Zionist enemy's military concentrations in southern Lebanon with the purpose of striking at the Palestinian revolution and liquidating the Palestinian people.

Comrade Barabash reiterated the Soviet Union's principled and unwavering support for the Palestinian people's just struggle and the Soviet Union's support for the PLO in the confrontation of any aggression that the Zionist forces, which are backed by the imperialist United States, will carry out.

VOP CRITICIZES MITTERRAND'S VISIT TO ISRAEL

JN031824 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1638 GMT 3 Mar 82

[News Analysis]

[Text] The French administration's arguments about Mitterrand's visit to the Zionist entity cannot convince anyone. These arguments cannot justify Mitterrand's unique and biased move, which is bound to greatly jeopardize French interests in our region.

President Mitterrand's administrations talks about turning over a new leaf in relations with Israel so it will be able to work for peace in the region. We hardly need evidence to disprove this argument. Israel would not submit to the conditions of peace when it was isolated by France and Europe. How could it be positive now when it is no longer isolated and when Israeli intransigence is at its peak? Therefore, the visit is intended to reassure the Israeli leadership that the more intransigent it is, the stronger it is.

The French administration's claims that Mitterrand's visit is a manifestation of the balanced policy which France wants to pursue is deceptive and ignores the facts. What kind of balance can be manifested by the visit of the first European head of state to the Zionist entity after its annexation of Jerusalem and the Golan, and especially when we know that the so-called balanced president has not given anything to the Palestinians other than protocol facilities which are of no political consequence?

The French position can be described as balanced in one case only: when France officially recognizes the PLO and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. So far, the French position has not reached this point.

President Mitterrand's visit is an unjustified initiative which not only supports extremist Zionist policy but also distorts the significantly civilized image projected under President de Gaulle, when France adopted a firm stand toward Israel and its hostile policies in 1967. Mitterrand is now taking us back to the pre-1967 days. This would do more harm to France than anyone else.

At any rate, our people in the occupied territory, who are groaning under the yoke of occupation and its daily crimes and who are facing these crimes courageously, have their own way of convincing President Mitterrand that he was wrong in deciding to visit Israel and to meet with its racist terrorist leaders. Our people are the owners of the lands and the right. They have the final say in peace.

Our people will tell Mitterrand that the Palestinian struggle under the PLO has asserted itself everywhere on Palestinian territory through facts and events. Peace and stability in the region will not see the light except through the acknowledgement of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including their right to return, to determine their destiny and to establish their independent Palestinian state under the leadership of the PLO. Without that, any plans, visits or proposals will be to no avail. The Palestinian people under the PLO hold the only key to peace. They also hold the only key to the continuation of the conflict in this part of the world.

BRIEFS

LOAN TO BANGLADESH -- An agreement was signed today in Jidda between the Islamic Development Bank and Bangladesh. The bank will finance the (Shtiajough) project for the production of urea fertilizer with 12,763,000 Islamic dinars, which is equivalent to $16.3 million. The factory's annual production will reach 560,000 tons. [Manama WAKH in Arabic 1400 GMT 1 Mar 82 GF]

OMAN

MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES IN MUSCAT

GF031257 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1210 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Muscat, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed and the accompanying delegation arrived in Muscat at noon today for a 3-day official visit to the Sultanate of Oman. The Malaysian prime minister will meet with Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman and hold talks with senior Omani officials on the situation in the Arab and Islamic arenas as well as on the current world situation and bilateral relations. This visit comes within the framework of Dr Mahathir's tour of a number of states in the region.

Received by Qabus

GF031836 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1805 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Muscat, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman received Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed in Muscat this evening. The meeting was attended on the Omani side by Ath-Thuwayni ibn Shihab, the sultan's special adviser and mayor of the capital, and Yusif al-'Alawi, minister of state for foreign affairs. On behalf of the Malaysian side, the meeting was attended by Mohamed Ghazali bin Shafie, foreign minister; Zakaria bin Haji Mohamad Ali, foreign ministry under secretary; and Mohamad Khatib bin Abdul Hamid, ambassador to Oman.

QATAR

AMIR RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SAUDI MONARCH

GF031447 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1205 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a written message from King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The message was delivered by Saudi Ambassador in Doha 'Abd al-Muhsin Sulayman az-Zayd during a meeting attended by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister.

QNA says the message deals with a number of issues of joint interest within the framework of continuing consultations between the two countries. The message also deals with bolstering bilateral relations in various fields.

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH TUNISIA

GF031623 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1400 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- The State of Qatar and Tunisia today signed two agreements on economic and military cooperation.

According to the economic agreement, the two states will establish a joint financial foundation to be called the Tunisian-Qatari Investment Bank. The location of the bank will be in the Tunisian capital and its capital will eventually be 70 million Tunisian dinars. Both countries will have equal shares in the bank.

The agreement defines the bank as a facility that will prepare, accomplish and finance industrial, tourist, agricultural and real estate projects in Tunisia in addition to the investment of capital to implement these projects.

The military agreement signed by Qatar and Tunisia deals with organizing Tunisian Army personnel and technicians to work in the Qatari Army.

The agreements were signed on behalf of Qatar by Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and defense minister, and on behalf of Tunisia by Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, who is currently visiting Qatar.

The signing ceremony was attended on behalf of Qatar by Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari minister of finance and oil; Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs; Dr Hasan Kamil, the amir's adviser; 'Ali ibn Ahmad al-Ansari, labor and social affairs minister; 'Abdallah ibn Khalifah al-'Atiyah, director of the heir apparent and defense minister's office; Rashid Muhammad al-Khatir, ambassador to Tunisia; and Shaykh Khalifah ibn Jasim Al Thani, political researcher in the heir apparent's office.

The ceremony was attended on behalf of Tunisia by Mansour Moalla, minister of planning and finance; Mahmoud al-Mestiri, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Mohamed al-Mahrez, Tunisian ambassador to Qatar.

CORRECTION TO ITEM ON TUNISIAN MINISTER'S TALKS

The following correction is to the item entitled "Tunisia Prime Minister Arrives From Riyadh," and subheaded "Talks Held" published in the Arabian Peninsula section of the 3 March Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT:

Page C 3, last paragraph, penultimate line should read: "... al-Mestiri, minister of state for foreign affairs; and...."

JORDANIAN COMMANDER IN CHIEF ENDS VISIT 3 MARCH

GF031544 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1410 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Doha, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- Lt Gen ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, ended his 3-day visit to Qatar this afternoon. During this visit the commander in chief held talks with Qatari officials with the aim of consolidating bilateral relations and enhancing military cooperation.

BRIEFS

NEW SAUDI AMBASSADOR -- Foreign Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani today received the credentials of 'Abd al-Muhsin ibn Sulayman az-Zayd, the new Saudi ambassador to Qatar. [Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 28 Feb 82 GF]

SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT TO AL-MADINAH

GF031927 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 28 Feb 82 p 1

['Abd ar-Razak Al Tunisi dispatch]

[Text] Riyadh -- Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the defense and aviation minister, has asserted the Gulf countries -- their leaderships and ministerial councils -- above all support peace in the region.

In a statement to AL-MADINAH, his highness said this support is totally based on justice because peace and justice are inseparable so long as the peoples of the region seek peace.

Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war, he said: The GCC countries have a united stand on this war. He added: The Arabian Gulf countries and other Arab countries believe Iraq is demanding its legitimate rights.

He added that Islam is capable of strengthening the ties between Muslims when every Muslim testifies that there is one God and individuals adhere to Islam's tolerant creed.

He hoped that God would grant success to the brothers in Iraq and Iran in achieving a peace that is satisfactory to both sides. The aviation and defense minister asserted that Saudi Arabia is a country of true steadfastness, the country of the prophets. He said Saudi Arabia is capable of defending itself without turning to another country for aid. It is capable of shouldering this defense with God's support and power and with the care and interest of King Khalid and Crown Prince Fahd and the determination of the country's people.

He explained: For us, peace is more of a basic than an individual factor. [as published]

His Highness Prince Sultan was talking to AL-MADINAH after he attended the flypast of F-15 Eagle aircraft at the King Faysal Air College last week. He said: Watching today's youth offering the fruit of their struggle to their homeland as a token of loyalty is clear proof that their high morale augurs well for a future for our developed forces.

TURKISH PRIME MINISTER BULENT ULUSU ARRIVES

GF031748 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in English 1715 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] The Turkish prime minister, member of the Islamic good offices committee, Mr Bulent Ulusu, arrived in Jidda today to attend the committee meeting scheduled to start next Friday. He was received at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, the deputy governor of the Mecca region; Mr Habib Chatti, the general secretary of the Islamic Conference Organization; and a number of senior officials.

Talks of War Mediation

GF040844 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0528 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Jidda, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ulusu has expressed the hope that the Islamic good office committee -- which is charged with resolving the Iraqi-Iranian dispute -- will be able to find a just solution for the war between Iraq and Iran.

In a statement made after arriving in Jidda today, Mr Ulusu said Turkey will participate in the Islamic good office committee until the existing dispute comes to an end.

Habib Chatti, Islamic Conference organization secretary general, has said the two countries do not object to the committee's proposals to end the war.

In a similar statement, Chatti said the committee will try to end this war, which constitutes a great threat to the region and which may lead to foreign intervention in the region.

Mr Chatti said the committee meetings will rely on basic principles, foremost of which is the formation of a preliminary subcommittee called "the committee for stopping the war, for withdrawal and ensuring rights." This committee is charged with defining the dispute between the two countries and then it will submit proposals and solutions. After that the committee will discuss cooperation by the two countries in order to reach a settlement governing the withdrawal and the stationing of Islamic forces on the border. The committee will form a second subcommittee which is the "Islamic forces committee." The third subcommittee will investigate the responsibility for this war.

Mr Chatti affirmed that the good office committee will be based on these three principles. He also stressed that the first subcommittee will be ready to begin in 24 hours, if the two parties agree to stop the war.

Answering a question on the committee's visit to Baghdad and Iran, he said this issue will be discussed during the committee's meeting. Mr Chatti denied there are any alternatives for the committee. He said the only solution is that the two countries accept mediation and negotiations.

UAE

OPEC TO CALL CONSULTATIVE MEETING 'SHORTLY'

LD031722 Kuwait KUNA in English 1535 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (KUNA) -- "A consultative meeting of OPEC will shortly be called," UAE Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources and current chairman of the 13-member organization Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah said Wednesday.

Dr al-'Utaybah, who just returned from a tour which included Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait, did not determine an exact date for that convention.

He said the invitation will be extended in his capacity as current chairman of the organization after receiving an "almost" unanimous approval from other members.

Dr al-'Utaybah held talks with Saudi, Kuwait and Qatari officials centering on means of holding a consultative meeting, it was announced.

On reports of the UK's intention to decrease its North Sea oil prices by four dollars per barrel, less than the minimum celing of OPEC pices, Dr al-'Utaybah said "such a reduction will not solve problems of those who adopt such measures and will even lead to more complications."

He expressed hope that countries who think of decreasing prices should be a little patient because OPEC members are determined to find solutions that would assist all oil producing countries.

Any major cut in oil prices will "have its serious repercussions on all," he said and affirmed that he "does not approve this at all."

The OPEC meeting is likely to be called within two weeks either in Geneva or Abu Dhabi, sources aid here.

Proposals to counter the oil glut includes a cut in OPEC's production and a minimum price level.

ZAYID RECEIVED LETTER FROM AL-QADHDHAFI

GF031758 Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Salman Al Nuhayyan has received a letter from Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on bilateral relations, developments of the Middle East crisis and threats posed to the Arab nation. The letter was delivered by 'Ali Mahmud Maryah, head of the Libyan People's Bureau, who was received by the UAE president at al-Batin Palace tonight. The meeting was attended by Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi, the president's representative.

TALKS WITH PDRY BEGIN IN ABU DHABI 3 MARCH

GF031405 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Official face-to-face talks were held in a closed session at Al-Mushrif Palace this morning between Shaykh Zayid ibn Salman Al Nuhayyan, the president, and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers.

Meanwhile, extensive talks were held between the delegations of the two countries. The UAE was represented by Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of foreign affairs; Sayf al-Jarawan, minister of labor and social affairs and head of the honorary delegation; 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarawan, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry; and Nasir an-Nuways, director general of the Abu Dhabi Arab Economic Development Fund. The PDRY delegation consisted of Salim Salih, minister of foreign affaris; Nasr Nasir, minister of labor and civil service; and 'Ali al-'Aydarus, the PDRY ambassador in Kuwait.

Following these extensive talks Rashid 'Abdallah stated that this session complemented the talks held between the two leaders today. He added that the talks dealt with the results of the PDRY chairman's recent tour of a number of countries; the Arab situation; the necessity of taking serious joint action to clear up the Arab atmosphere, eliminate discord and unify ranks in order to hold the Fes summit conference; and particularly major Arab issues -- the foremost of which is the Palestinian cause. Rashid 'Abdallah noted that besides reviewing bilateral relations and cooperation, the talks also covered the nonaligned summit conference to be held in Baghdad.

Following the official talks between the UAE and PDRY leaders at Al-Mushrif Palace, PDRY Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made a statement. He said his meeting with Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan was fruitful and the crowning touch of the continuous meetings between officials of the two fraternal countries. He said: We examined the situation in our region in particular, as well as the current Arab situation and developments in the Middle East. Our opinions coincided on the need for serious action to sustain security and stability of our region and consolidate auspicious bilateral cooperation between countries of the region for the welfare of their peoples.

The PDRY chairman said discussion also dealt with efforts to consolidate anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist Arab solidarity and to call on all brothers to disregard peripheral disagreements in order to devote all efforts to serving our problems of destiny.

The PDRY chairman added: We stressed support for every possible effort to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and settle the crisis peacefully because it is a war of attrition for both countries' powers and facilities.

Concluding his statement, the PDRY chairman expressed his country's appreciation for the UAE's role, under Shaykh Zayid, in maintaining security and stability in the region and supporting Arab solidarity issues. He also expressed full satisfaction with the standard of bilateral relations, which serve the welfare of both peoples.

PDRY Chairman Leaves for Home

GF040941 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0913 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 4 Mar (WAKH) -- 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, left for home today at the conclusion of a 2-day official visit to the UAE.

In a predeparture statement, the PDRY chairman expressed his pleasure over the outcome of the talks which he held during his visit and over his consultations with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan. He emphasized that more contacts and meetings will be held to expand bilateral cooperation.

He said: "During this visit we reviewed the situation in the Gulf region and the Arabian Peninsula and the need to enhance its security and stability. We also discussed developments in the Middle East, the current Arab situation and means of bolstering Arab solidarity." He added: "This visit has reflected a common interest in dealing with our national pan-Arab issues objectively and comprehensively, taking into consideration the nature of the grave situation which our Arab nation is undergoing as a result of the difficulties and obstacles placed in its way by its enemies."

IRAN'S 'AZIZI MEETS FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS

GF031409 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 3 Mar (WAKH) -- UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah met today with the Iranian delegation headed by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ahmad 'Azizi, who is currently visiting the UAE. Bilateral relations and current developments in the region in addition to issues of joint interest were discussed.

The meeting was attended by UAE Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan and a number of UAE Foreign Ministry officials in addition to Iranian charge d'Affaires Ja'far Kashani.

JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MAHATHIR'S VISIT

GF031129 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Malaysia has welcomed the establishment of the GCC as a constructive factor for more independence through its countries' cooperation in the economic, social and cultural fields and for its active role in preserving Gulf stability and security.

This came in a joint communique issued after the visit of Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed.

In this communique, the UAE and Malaysia affirmed that a durable and just peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved without the Palestinian people exercising their firm and inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their land under the leadership of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two sides appealed to the superpowers to be sincere in the current efforts to establish an overall settlement for the Middle East problem and to pressure Israel into withdrawing from all occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, including holy Jerusalem. Both sides strongly denounced the repeated Israeli aggressions against Lebanon, which are aimed at dividing it and at undermining its sovereignty.

Malaysian Prime Minister Dr Mahathir bin Mohamed left the UAE for Muscat this morning at the conclusion of a 3-day visit to the UAE within the framework of his current tour of a number of countries in the region.

The Malaysian prime minister described his talks with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and with UAE officials as fruitful and covering various issues that concern the two countries.

In a press conference which he held at the Hilton Hotel this morning, the Malaysian prime minister said: I found that our views are identical on many of these issues. My visit to a number of countries in the region was to study the views of the leaders of these countries on issues that concern the Gulf region and Southeast Asia. Dr Mahathir affirmed his country's stand on the just Arab causes foremost of which is the Palestinian issue. He said his country is sympathetic to the Palestinians and supports the Arab world.

BRIEFS

BIRTH, DEATH STATISTICS -- From 1977 to 1981-end, there were 39,200 births in the UAE. Of these, 20,236 were boys and 18,984 girls. Abu Dhabi and areas under its medical jurisdiction accounted for 25,740 births. Of these, 10,259 births were in 1981. In the 1977-81 period, there were 3,887 deaths in the UAE, of which 922 deaths were in 1981. In 1981, deaths of children between the ages of 1 to 5 were 857. The figures were released by the statistical office of the Planning Ministry in a preliminary report for the year 1981. [Text] [Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 26 Feb 82 p 2 GF]

PDRY

FILLS TO DEPUTY INTERIOR MINISTER'S STATEMENT

The following fills are to the item entitled "Deputy Interior Minister on Riyadh Meeting," published in the Arabian Peninsula Section of the 26 February Middle East and Africa DAILY REPORT:

Page C6, insert between second and third paragraphs: Brother 'Abd al-Wasi Sallam explained in the statement that the extraordinary conference of the interior ministers resulted in the approval of the draft basic statute of the council of Arab interior ministers which includes a definition of the tasks of the council's tasks and activities and which will be exercised within the framework of the Arab League. It also confirmed a plan to establish a permanent secretariat for the council from among the member states, whose headquarters will be in (?Tunis).

Insert after last paragraph: The brother deputy interior minister was received by a number of commanders and officers of the Interior Ministry.

YAR

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES USSR DELEGATION

JN021842 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, vice president and chairman of the People's Constituent Assembly, this afternoon received the USSR parliamentary delegation currently visiting the YAR, headed by [words indistinct], the chairman of the Soviet-Yemeni Friendship Committee. The vice president welcomed the delegation saying that this visit would give them a good impression of our country and the People's Assembly. The vice president told the USSR delegation that the relations between the USSR and Yemeni peoples are strong and ancient. The vice president wished the delegation a pleasant stay in the YAR.

SABA' news agency learned that during the meeting, the chairman of the USSR parliamentary delegation presented an invitation from the Supreme Soviet Presidium to the People's Constituent Assembly delegation to visit the Soviet Union. The vice president accepted the invitation with gratitude. The date for the visit will be announced later.

AUTONOMY TECHNICAL TEAMS DISCUSS AUTHORITY ROLE

NC031707 Cairo MENA in English 1635 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- The Egyptian side to the tripartite technical committee on the negotiations for autonomy for the Palestinians today suggested that the proposed Palestinian authority which is to emerge thereupon enjoy all the competencies assumed by the Israeli governing body at present.

Today's meeting also covered matters pertaining to the permanent committee which is to be formed of four parties: Egypt, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian authority.

The technical committee meetings opened last Sunday and are to last to next Sunday. The Egyptian side is to present its views on the security question to the committee at its meeting this evening.

Evening Session Held

NC032100 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2016 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- The tripartite technical committee on the Palestinian autonomy talks has resumed meetings in Mean House Hotel this evening to complete the discussions of the points of disagreement in a bid to find a solution and chart a plan for a declaration of principles on the autonomy powers and jurisdictions of the Palestinian authority in implementation of the second part of the Camp David agreements.

Rear Admiral Muhsin Hamdi, member of the Egyptian delegation to the tripartite technical committee, will submit a thorough report to Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali this coming Saturday on Israeli views of security arrangements and the foundations on which they are based. The Egyptian side to the talks objected to this issue.

MENA has learned that the Egyptian stance on the issue of security arrangements is based on principles Egypt announced in Herzliyya in May 1980. These principles provided that the concept of security means security for all sides, including the Palestinians, not just Israel.

GHALI: DESPITE PROBLEMS, AUTONOMY TALKS GO ON

NC031658 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, announced that the continuity of Egypt's foreign policy stems from the firm elements governing it, foremost among them being the geographical position of Egypt, the requirements of national security, and Egypt's economic conditions.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti paper AS-SIYASAH, Dr Ghali affirmed that Egypt welcomes any plan leading to a comprehensive peace in the Middle East region provided it takes into consideration the steps achieved by Egypt in the framework of the peace treaty and the approval of Israel.

Dr Ghali admitted that there were difficulties in the way of achieving an agreement to grant autonomy to the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, but he affirmed that Egypt will continue in its negotiations with Israel on this subject because there is no other alternative.

NDP FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHIEF VIEWS ARAB RELATIONS

NC041057 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0945 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) -- Dr Mustafa Khalil, deputy leader of the National Democratic Party [NDP] for foreign relations, has reaffirmed that Egypt welcomes the restoration of Arab relations, provided that no state dictates conditions to Egypt and that there be no interference of any kind in Egypt's foreign or domestic policy.

Dr Khalil noted that Egypt welcomes the restoration of relations which do not effect its international agreements, its pledges for peace between Egypt and Israel, the normalization of relations with Israel or Egypt's foreign relations with the friendly states such as the United States and Western Europe and its special relations with Arab states such as the Sudan.

Dr Khalil noted that the NDP has no plan for any foreign Arab move for restoring the Egyptian-Arab relations and said that the party abides by the government's clear policy declared by President Husni Mubarak.

Dr Khalil said that if there was any move by the Egyptian opposition parties to restore the Egytpian-Arab relations, it was a private initiative, the government and the NDP not having asked any official of these parties to speak for the government or to mediate between them and the Arab governments or parties.

He affirmed that the NDP has received no invitation from any Arab governments or parties and that the opposition parties must consult the government before embarking upon any contacts because Egypt's stance regarding this point is clear.

Dr Khalil concluded his statement by noting that there is a comprehensive plan for a diplomatic move, approved by the Political Bureau at its last meeting, affirming Egypt's clear stand regarding various pan-Arab questions and that this plan actually started with President Mubarak's messages recently to the U.S. President and heads of state of some Western European countries.

SPEAKER ABU TALIB AFFIRMS EGYPT'S ARAB STANCE

NC031301 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1200 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib has affirmed Egypt's strong link with the Arab world and adherence to the UN and Security Council resolutions as a basis for future relations between Israel and the Arab states, including the Palestinian people.

Noting the differences between Egypt and Israel, he said that they include autonomy, lack of trust between Israel and the Arabs, the Jerusalem problem, the establishment of a Palestinian state and the problem of security guarantees for the Arabs and Israel.

This was stated by Dr Abu Talib today when he received the delegation representing the Socialist group of the European Parliament which is visiting Cairo, led by Ernest Glenn.

ABU TALIB STRESSES EUROPEAN MIDEAST ROLE

NC040702 Cairo MENA in English 2305 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- Speaker of the People's Assembly Dr Sufi Abu Talib said this evening that the attainment of just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East region necessitates efforts of the peace-loving nations for that end.

Egypt believes in the importance of the European role on the world arena for it represents a power and a balance in the region, Dr Abu Talib said.

In the dinner given in honour of the EEC Socialist group delegation currently visiting here, Abu Talib hailed the European group's efforts for attaining peace in the Mideast region, adding that Egypt looks forward to more contacts with the EEC particularly with the Socialist groups.

The chairman of the EEC Socialist delegation said that the Socialist group appreciates Egypt's role to bring about just peace in the Middle East as well as its efforts to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

He underlined that they have touched on President Husni Mubarak's frankness and determination to bring about peace in the region.

The chairman of the EEC Socialist group has also called for the full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands and to stop building up settlements in the occupied Arab lands.

The EEC delegation will head for Israel in the wake of its visit to Egypt where the delegation will visit the western part of Jerusalem, not the eastern, for it does not recognize the Israeli decision on the annexation of Jerusalem.

PRESIDENT MUBARAK MEETS EUROPEAN DELEGATION

NC031247 Cairo MENA in English 1150 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak today received a 12-member delegation representing the Socialist group of the European Parliament under group leader Ernest Glenn.

The meeting was attended by parliament speaker here Dr Sufi Abu Talib and Chairman of the Parliament's Foreign Relations Committee Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah.

The delegation arrived here yesterday on a three day visit to Egypt within their tour of a number of Mideast countries to get seized [as heard] of the viewpoints of the heads of state in the area and thus carry with them to the European Parliament a more clear view of the Middle East situation.

DPRK VICE PREMIER ARRIVES IN CAIRO 3 MARCH

NC032213 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2110 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- DPRK Vice Premier Kong Chin-tae arrived in Cairo this evening on a 4-day official visit.

Following his arrival, the DPRK official delivered a statement in which he expressed his deep thanks to the Egyptian people and their government. He said: We will exchange views with Egyptian officials to the greatest extent on strengthening friendship, cooperation, and questions of common interest.

The DPRK vice premier affirmed that his country stands with the Egyptian and Arab peoples who are struggling to restore the occupied Arab territories. He added: Our delegation's current visit to Egypt is an important occasion for developing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali received the DPRK guest at the airport.

Mubarak Receives Message

NC040842 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 4 Mar (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has received a message from DPRK President Kim Il-song. The message was handed to President Mubarak by DPRK Vice Premier Kong Chin-tae when the president received him this morning.

The meeting was attended by Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and chief of the Presidential Office for Foreign Political Affairs, and DPRK Ambassador in Cairo Kang Man-su.

The DPRK vice premier arrived in Cairo last night on a 4-day visit to Egypt.

COURT CLOSES AS-SADAT TRIAL, TO GIVE VERDICT

NC031553 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Cairo, 3 Mar (MENA) -- During its session this morning the Supreme Military Court decided to close the door for pleas in the case of the assassination of departed President Anwar as-Sadat and to deliver the verdict in the case at an open session to be held at 1100 on Saturday, 6 March.

The Supreme Military Court finished hearing the rest of the defense pleas at a session it held this morning under Court President Maj Gen Dr Samir Fadil.

Further on As-Sadat Trial

NC031849 Paris AFP in English 1836 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Cairo, 3 Mar (AFP) -- The trial of President Anwar as-Sadat's 24 alleged killers took a dramatic new twist today as their 60 defense lawyers were barred entry to the courtroom while the military high court said a final verdict would be handed down next Saturday.

At a press conference here, the defense lawyers' collective strongly protested the move, terming it a violation of the constitution, of human rights and of the rights of the defence. It was a prelude to a "killer verdict", they said.

The lawyers, who have attended hearings since the trial began on November 21, denounced the fact that they were not allowed to complete their pleas but were replaced by 15 court-appointed lawyers.

The new lawyers, they said, had no previous knowledge of the 2,000-page indictment. Their pleas today lasted a mere hour and a half, or "less than five minutes per defendant".

The court's decision to appoint new and uninformed lawyers only three days before the verdict was an attempt to keep up the "sham" of a fair trial, they charged.

Since the beginning the closed-door trial had been shrouded in "terror", the lawyers said, with some two dozen security officers attending the hearings to record the depositions on tape and film. Some of them were known to the defendants as "torturers", they said.

Mr as-Sadat was assassinated in a hail of bullets while reviewing a military parade in Cairo last October 6.

SADDAM HUSAYN WELCOMES AL-YARMUK FORCES

JN032340 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 3 Mar 82

[President Saddam Husayn's 3 March speech to the Jordanian Arab Al-Yarmuk forces at their camp -- recorded]

[Text] Men from Jordan have come to Iraq to defend Arabism and its rights. Welcome to the men from Jordan. [applause] Brothers, you know that this is not the first time that Jordanians have fought with Iraqis or Iraqis with Jordanians. [applause] By coming to Iraq to defend Arabism and its rights, you are recording a new glorious addition to a long and brilliant history of the pan-Arab spirit and the fraternal relations that exist between Iraq and Jordan. [applause]

Brothers, it is not always principles that are implemented. We have been Arabs for a long time. You have been Jordanians for a long time and continue to be Jordanians. We have been Iraqis for a long time and continue to be Iraqis. The banner of victory, however, has been absent from us for a long time too. We say with regret that for a long time the banner of the Arab nation had been shy in the fighting because the Arab nation's enemies had always scored victories in the battles against us. The reason and the circumstances for this are very well known. [applause] This has taken place not because the Arabs do not excel in fighting and do not fight as courageous men. Their history is full of glories, proud feats, sacrifices and martyrdom. [applause] Your coming to Iraq from Jordan -- this courageous decision that brother King Husayn has made (applause] and this pure blood which flows in your veins for the sake of the Iraqi territory and the Iraqi people [applause] cannot be forgotten by the Iraqi people and those who are politically responsible for their affairs. They will continue to appreciate this as long as they live. More important than this, they will remember the principled and courageous stand adopted by brother King Husayn and the Arab people. [applause]

That's how live principles are translated into facts. Iraq and Jordan are standing in one trench [applause], yes, this is thanks to His Majesty King Husayn [applause] because brothers, I am telling you this not out of courtesy but because I am speaking from my heart.

Brothers, Arab citizens from Sudan, Egypt, Syria have preceded you. All of them, without exception, have come without consulting their governments and without the supervision of their governments, with the exception of Yemen. Therefore, there is a difference when men come in accordance with a decision taken by their government and with their encouragement and support, and with men who come to fight the pan-Arab battles as infiltrators.

What has happened in Jordan is that you came in accordance with a decision by the king of Jordan [applause] which is in harmony with your national will, spirit and blood. This is true brotherhood. Otherwise, what would be the meaning of brotherhood? [applause] The real strength is not to raise slogans but to fight in one trench to protect the Arab nation. That's what Jordan has done. That's what Yemen too has done so far. We hope that other brother Arab rulers will be encouraged and follow this example. As for the Arab citizens, I am confident that no matter how facts are falsified, they will see the truth as it is and that they will come overcoming the borders in one form or another to fight with the forces of Al-Qadisiyah and Al-Yarmuk. [applause] In the past, when a battle took place, the Arabs used to fight. This occurred in 1967 when Jordan rushed to help Egypt and before this in 1956. A big battle against the Zionists took place in 1967. Official fighting took place in 1973 at the sides of Egypt and Syria. Some of your units went to Saudi Arabia too.

The Iraqi Army fought too on the Syrian and Egyptian fronts. On the Egyptian front, they were the first planes to raid the Zionist entity's missile positions. [?The crossing] of the [Suez] canal was Iraqi. It is not I who am saying this [applause] but I am quoting As-Sadat who stated this at the time and I also am quoting statements made by his defense minister. [applause] I wish the Iraqi planes had begun to strike the missile positions because they have a long range -- there were hunter planes which have a long range and intensity of fire and a large number of missiles. [as heard]. These were sent to Egypt before the war at its request.

As for the Syrian front, you are close enough to it and, therefore, you know the details. We do not want to talk about what Iraq has done, yet we want to stress that what Iraq has done and what it will continue to do in the future is its duty. If we want really to be Arabs we have to do our duty. Some Arab regimes claim that they are Arabs but they are actually very far from being Arabs or even human.

The Arabs have never had the chance to really employ their manpower and potential in battle. The 1967 war lasted for 6 days and the 1973 war lasted for about 14 days. So this is the first battle in our modern history. [applause] This battle belongs to all the Arabs everywhere. We have been fighting and will continue to fight. The battle has been raging for 18 months and our triumph is in the first place a triumph for the Arabs. [applause]

The battle is not over yet. The battle is now entering the second half of its second year. There are no more excuses and any Arab who does not take part in the battle has no excuse. He has no excuse for saying that he is not prepared because the battle has been raging for 18 months now. Any Arab has had enough time to form units, train them, arm them and prepare them for the battle. [applause]

Some of the Arab leaders and rulers believe that there is a chance to plot against this or that regime or this or that ruler. Let them first settle their own problems before plotting against the others. Be sure brothers, that if there were sincerity and humbleness there would be enough room in the Arab world for many other new rulers. We in Iraq are not worried and the brothers in Jordan under brother King Husayn are also not worried. What we are looking for is brotherhood and not plotting. Every responsible person is a leader in his own position. The king of Jordan is responsible in Jordan, Saddam Husayn is responsible in Iraq, this president and that king are responsible each in his own position. All together, with our unity, with our clean hearts and sincerity we can work together and benefit from the accomplishments of our work. [applause]

Brother Jordanians. Your brothers here will organize for you a special program for certain training. I know that many among you are military men. You will take part in the battle. [applause] Your brothers here will set for you a training program on certain terms so you can become acquainted with certain terms and logistical issues. Then you will be ready and with God's help you will move to the front. The war, as you know, is still continuing. Your brothers at the battlefront are in good condition and in an excellent situation. They own the initiative, yet your presence among them has a national meaning. This is what we want. As I said, we have been fighting for 18 months now and we have not asked any Arab to come and fight for us. Yet our people have been wondering whether we are Arabs or not. Our people have been wondering where the Arabs are. We have become afraid that our values which we honor would be defamed. Our values that tell us that we are a part of one great nation. We realize that whatever victories we may achieve should also belong to the entire nation or else they will be meaningless.

Therefore, when brother King Husayn proposed to [fight with us] we told him welcome. We understand that every Arab must fight to defend the land of the Arabs. The Iraqi would fight in Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Libya and anywhere else in the Arab land regardless of our opinion of the ruler or the regime. The regime in Syria is well-known now. It is standing along side the enemy. Yet if the Syrian land is threatened we will fight to defend it exactly as we will fight to defend Iraqi land. [applause]

There are, however, certain realities which affect people's stands. When Iraqis remember how they went in 1973 and recall the stand of the ruler -- not all of them have the same maturity, some who are not fully mature might say that this ruler whose land we had defended and for which he is constitutionally responsible, has let it fall in the hands of the enemy. Therefore, they would not go again with the same enthusiasm. National education, however, if available, will put an end to these breaches. Iraqis will say why should we fight? We looked around us once, we turned to the right, to the left and there was no one. [applause]

Be confident that we are not afraid of the Syrian regime. The Syrian regime has been conspiring against us for the last 14 years. If it concocts conspiracies for 400 years it will succeed in achieving nothing. [applause] The regime which is a prisoner in its own castle and is afraid of the guard at its door, can it carry weapons and can it storm the bastions which we have been fighting for 18 months? [applause] The people who are there are an Arab people, like you and me. They have seen how Iranian planes have entered from the Syrian territories to raid the airport in which the commander of the Iraqi air defense sector committed suicide because one of our planes was hit in this airport. He believed that he had not taken the necessary precautions. His pride was hurt and he committed suicide. These planes came from Syria and one of them was hit and remained grounded on Syrian territory for 1 complete month. These are facts of which the Syrian people are aware. They also know that the Syrian planes transport daily weapons from Syrian territory, whether Syrian weapons or the weapons of others which they receive from outside Syria and transport in order to deal blows to the Iraqis.

These facts are known by the Syrian people. They are also known by the Jordanian people and the Arab people at large, even if they do not see them with their own eyes. Thev have placed themselves in a corner and will be severely judged by history. What use is it for a ruler to remain in power for 40 or 50 years? It suffices him to remain 1 year in power and have the people say that this ruler was just and so forth, that he was a man of principles. How different from the ruler who, when his name is mentioned, is cursed by the people.

God bless you as king, government and people [applause] when you return to Jordan on leave, please greet your families on our behalf as well as the entire Jordanian people. Please convey our greetings to the Iraqis whom you will meet at the front. [applause]

YAR PRESIDENT STRESSES ARAB COOPERATION

JN031440 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1335 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Mar (INA) -- YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has stated that his country's support for Iraq is in complete harmony with the YAR's principled policy which calls for supporting any Arab country which is subjected to any conspiracy or aggression from any party.

In an interview which was published here today, President Salih stressed that the Arabs [illegible] cannot suffer any divisions and that the negative or harmful results of what Iraq is currently subjected to will also affect other Arab countries. He said that Yemen will not hesitate to offer its sons for the causes of the Arab nation, pointing out that Yemeni volunteers were among the first to arrive in Palestine and they were the first to arrive in Libya in response to the call of duty. Yemeni people are now participating with the Palestinian revolution to champion Arab rights. President Salih stressed that the honor of martyrdom is sought by all Yemeni people to defend every inch of Arab territory and rights. The Yemenis blood is the best expression of the unified Arab fate.

President Salih stated that the objective of his recent tour was to unify Arab efforts and adopt a unified Arab stand on the events and dangers to which the region is exposed. He added that the talks also dealt with international issues that affect Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian cause.

President Salih mentioned that cooperation between Iraq and the YAR is constantly developing in all fields. He said that development circumstances in the two countries and in the region require the continued development of cooperation relations through consultations and brotherly meetings, keeping in mind the Arabs' joint interests to achieve the nucleus of future integration among Arabs. President Salih said that Iraq and the YAR attach much importance to this issue.

FRANCE'S CHEYSSON PLEDGES NUCLEAR COOPERATION

JN031355 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1325 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Mar (INA) -- Claude Cheysson, French minister of external relations, has stressed that France is always ready to cooperate with Iraq in building nuclear reactors for peaceful purposes. Cheysson's statements were made to the ALIF BA' magazine today. The French minister said that the Israeli raid on the Iraqi nuclear reactor was a violation of international laws and France condemned such a raid. He added that France remains committed to and is enthusiastic about cooperating with Iraq particularly in the technological field.

The French minister revealed that the Iraqi-French talks during Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz's visit to France at the end of last year had dealt with new methods for cooperation which had been clearly determined by the competent French parties. Cheysson, however, did not elaborate on the nature of thies methods. The French minister said that discussions between French and Iraqi experts on technical cooperation continue and that everything is proceeding in accordance with the interests of both countries. Cheysson emphasized in particular his country's committment to the agreements that have been concluded between France and Iraq. Minister Cheysson visited Iraq last week for talks with several officials.

FORMER SYRIAN UN ENVOY URGES TOPPLING AL-ASAD

JN030936 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Mar (INA) -- A prominent Syrian figure has called on the Syrian opposition forces to form a national front to topple Hafiz al-Asad's regime by any means, headed by the armed popular struggle. Hamud Ash-Shawqi, former permanent Syrian envoy to the United Nations, said that a national front in Syria must be established on two bases: agreement to topple Hafiz al-Asad's regime and agreement to establish a substitute political regime comprising all national forces and figures who contribute to toppling the present regime.

In statements published here today by the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH, Ash-Shawqi stressed that a similar call was made previously by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's provisional regional command in Syria and was welcomed by the Syrian opposition forces. He also stressed that the Syrian people had carried weapons against Hafiz al-Asad and his tyranny and that these people will certainly triumph. He added that the armed uprising in Hamah is the beginning of this corrupt regime's end. He said that people may be suprised to hear me say that Hafiz al-Asad's regime has destroyed and burned the city of Hamah and that this valiant city was bombarded and shelled by aircraft, rocket launchers, armored vehicles and artillery during the recent uprising. He added that the regime adopted a savage and barbaric method to destroy the city's resistance by imposing a food siege and by cutting off water and electricity supplies.

Moreover, he said, the regime had searched houses, killed youths, captured women and carried out other ugly and disgraceful acts during the so-called combing operations. He added that the Syrian regime is practicing anarchy on the national level by savagely persecuting the people and on the pan-Arab level by trying to disrupt Arab solidarity.

This regime has betrayed Iraq and helped the Persian enemy in a disgraceful and cowardly manner.

He stressed that the battle Iraq is waging against the racist Iranians is a pan-Arab battle, and he added that one of the most prominent results of this war is the creation of an Arab individual who is alert and ready to fight, taking pride in his dignity. He said that Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah has led to the creation of an Arab individual who enjoys an efficient military mentality while capable of continuing the process of economic development. The battle, he added, is tangible proof of the Arab nation's ability to achieve victory.

'IZZAT IBRAHIM RECEIVES GUINEAN ENVOY, MESSAGE

JN031206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Mar (INA) -- 'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, has received a written message for President Saddam Husayn from Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure. The message was delivered by Saidou Keita, Guinean minister of youth, sports and arts, who met with 'Izzat Ibrahim here today. Saidou Keita conveyed President Ahmed Sekou Toure's greetings to President Saddam Husayn and his appreciation for Iraq's role and efforts in supporting the Asian and African peoples' issues.

'Izzat Ibrahim asked the Guinean envoy to convey President Saddam Husayn's greetings to the Guinean president and his wishes for continued progress and success to the friendly Guinean people. Ibrahim stressed Iraq's appreciation of the Guinean president's role in the peace efforts being exerted to solve the Iraqi-Iranian conflict through the good offices of the committee under his chairmanship. Youth Minister Karim Mahmud attended the meeting.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUES

Communique No 633

JN021640 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1605 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 2 Mar (INA) -- A military communique issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command has put the enemy losses during the past 24 hours at 40 killed and 1 vehicle and 1 observation post destroyed. The communique said that the military operations took place in the Bostan, Abadan and Shush sectors and that the Iraqi losses were three martyrs in all sectors. The following is the text of the communique.

Communique No 633 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

The glorious forces of Saddam's al-Qadisiyah are continuing their activities in the operational sectors. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. One of our combat units raided an enemy position in the Bostan sector, pounded it with its weapons resulting in 15 killed and 1 vehicle destroyed. In the same sector, our forward units pounded enemy formations with various weapons killing 22 and destroying 1 observation post.
2. Two enemy soldiers killed in the Abadan area.
3. One enemy soldier killed in the Shush area.

Thus, the total enemy losses amounted to 40 killed and 1 vehicle and 1 observation post destroyed.

4. Our sacrifices: three martyrs in all sectors.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 March 1982

Communique No 634

JN031627 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1605 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Baghdad, 3 Mar (INA) -- During the past 24 hours, Iraqi forces killed 56 Iranians and destroyed 1 tank and 4 personnel carriers. Communique No 634 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command this evening stated that 1 vehicle, 1 gun, 2 excavators and 1 stockpile of ammunition were also destroyed. The communique put Iraqi sacrifices at 10 martyrs and one personnel carrier damaged. The following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

To achieve our glorious Arab nation's dignity and to protect its territories and legitimate rights, the heroes of our valiant armed forces, supported by the sons of our proud nation, continued their activities in the operations theater last night and today, with the following results.

1. Our forward units in the Bostan sector pounded enemy positions and concentrations with all kinds of weapons, killing 24 and destroying 1 tank, 4 personnel carriers, 1 vehicle and 1 stockpile of ammunition.
2. One of our forward units raided an enemy force in the Mimak area opposite their positions in Sayf Sa'd, and forced it to retreat leaving behind 15 killed and many wounded.
3. Six killed and 1 gun and 1 excavator destroyed in the Abadan area.
4. Five killed in the Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
5. Three killed in the Nowsud area.
6. One killed and one excavator destroyed in the Sush area.
7. One killed in the Dezful area.
8. One killed in the Ahvaz area.

Thus, the total known enemy losses amount to 56 killed and 1 tank, 4 personnel carriers, 1 vehicle, 1 gun, 2 excavators and 1 stockpile of ammunition destroyed.

9. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: 10 martyrs in all sectors.

B. In equipment: One personnel carrier damaged.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 3 March 1982

AN-NAHAR WRITER SKEPTICAL OF HABIB'S MISSION

PM031443 Beirut AN-NAHAR in Arabic 28 Feb 82 p 1

[Michel Abu Jawdah article: "The Threat, The Fireman and Habib's Cards"]

[Text] The American is the fireman and the American is the problem. The fact that Mr Philip Habib is promising to bring pressure to bear on Israel to prevent it from invading southern Lebanon does not mean that the problem lies only with Israel. The problem has been and still is with the United States. You cannot condemn Israeli aggression without condemning what enables Israel to commit aggression. Israel acts arrogantly and commits aggression because it is backed by the U.S. military arsenal that is put at its disposal and because it realizes that its American ally chooses to stand at its side in times of difficulty -- something which has been proven in practice. There is total harmony between Israeli threats and the U.S. mission; indeed it is the threat that justifies the mission. The escalation of the threat increases the mission's changes of success. In the final analysis the weak may be forced to escape the threat and find protection with the intermediary, and so will pay at the negotiating table more than they would pay on the battlefield. In other words the choice will be between surrendering to the victorious Israeli and accepting the U.S. envoy's terms, so the weak will choose the second solution.

For these reasons Israel escalated its threatening tone before Habib's arrival in the area. It threatened a military operation in southern Lebanon and even threatened an operation that would wipe out the PLO. There is no doubt that such threats aim at enabling Habib to extract the greatest possible concessions or, at least, agreement to continue the cease-fire in southern Lebanon.

If it is the obvious duty of the Arabs to fortify their military positions in the face of a potential Israeli aggression, it is also their duty to fortify their positions in the face of U.S. mediation. This does not mean rejection of it, for rejection might be costly too. Also the ability to reject is linked to the ability to find a major international ally as well as to secure the means of steadfastness. But fortification in the face of mediation would enable Habib to be talked to from a different position, so that he would be unable to make those whom he meets pay the price of his success in preventing Israel from launching a large-scale attack.

If we look realistically at our area, it will take no great effort to see that the present Arab situation does not help in achieving either type of fortification, since the present situation neither ensures the concentration of Arab capabilities to confront a potential Israeli attack nor enables us to benefit from the Arab capabilities to confront weight in bringing pressure on the U.S. envoy. Mr Habib knows, for example, that the Lebanese authority which he came to talk to has until this moment been unable to secure the agreement of the Lebanese on a plan to extricate Lebanon from its predicament. It has been unable even to secure minimum agreement among the Arabs on a common view to end the Lebanese crisis. In fact it has been unable to freeze Arab disputes inside Lebanon over its crisis. Habib also knows that Lebanon went to Tunis [Arab League Council meeting] hoping to return with a unified Arab strategy on southern Lebanon and that it returned with the conviction that the present Arab climate does not allow a unified Arab strategy or anything else. Habib also knows that the Arab world, despite the decision annexing the Golan, has been unable up to this moment to overcome the atmosphere created by the Fes summit. He also knows that the Arab capabilities are still being exhausted in the Western Sahara, in the Gulf's fears, in the Iraq-Iran war, and in the Lebanese open wound that has been bleeding for 7 years.

And because Habib knows all this he finds in his hands many cards that he would not have found had the Arab situation been healthy. The most dangerous card in his hand is probably the belief that his mediation is the final attempt to prevent the Israeli surprise. The question is: What does Habib want apart from the continuation of the cease-fire in the south? Has the United States begun to prepare for its move in the post-April stage?

ARMENIAN LEADERS IN IRAN RAPPED FOR COOPERATION

GF231349 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebnaese Armenians in Armenian 1330 GMT 11 Feb 82

[Excerpts] Due to provocations incited by the agent Tashnag leaders, an extremely tense situation has been prevailing in the Armenian area of Iran for the past 2 weeks. Aided by Khomeyni's bloodthirsty revolutionary guards, the Tashnag leaders are carrying out aggressive operations against the Armenian people.

The Voice of Lebanese Armenians has received numerous reports on this matter, one of these reports stated that agent Tashnag leaders had earlier established very intimate relations with the shah's government and his security forces. Now, however, they are cooperating with Khomeyni's band of robbers -- that is to say, the so-called revolutionary guards -- and undertaking cruel measures against our people. The Iranian revolutionary guards are entering Armenian areas in civilian clothes to quell peaceful expressions of complaints by the Armenian people.

To dounouce such operations and the insolent deeds by the Tashnag leaders, a meeting was held by Iranian Armenians on (Zarkesh) Street last week. This meeting organized a special committee to resist aggressive operations against the Armenian people. After the formation of this committee the Tashnag leaders increased their wanton deeds and placed the Iranian revolutionary guards disguised as Armenian gunmen in Armenian streets in order to crush complaints by the Armenian people with knives and [word indistinct]. Those guards attacked and wounded our defenseless and unarmed Armenian people on numerous streets.

This is how the Tashnag leaders impose their impetuosity on a defenseless people and expose their fascist nature. Our people have become the targets of agent Tashnag leaders. In order to undermine revolutionary ideas, the agent leaders undertake all kinds of measures to strike at the children of their own people.

Let these agent leaders be aware that if such events continue, the Armenian people will not remain silent and will give the appropriate answers to agent leaders all over the world. The people will know how to strike back at them if they persist in their antipopular attitude.

The Tashnag party leaders are cooperating with an Iranian government that executes Armenian youths, throws them into dungeons, closes down Armenian schools and opposes teaching in Armenian. The Tashnag leaders are cooperating with such a government and, together, they are aiming their strikes at our people. The Tashnag leaders are handing the names and addresses of our people's children to the ringleaders of the revolution guards, claiming these Armenian youths are communists.

Meanwhile, the same hermaphroditic Tashnag leaders hold meetings with the leaders of the Communist Party in Beirut. A Tashnag Party delegation held a meeting yesterday with George Hawi, the secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party. According to official announcements, the negotiations concerned the current situation and developments in Lebanon.

ARMENIAN SECRET ARMY SUPPORTERS NOTE ANNIVERSARY

GF020446 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanese Armenians in Armenian 1330 GMT 19 Feb 82

[Text] Those in Iran who sympathize with the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia [ASALA] have sent a congratulatory message to ASALA on the occasion of the organization's seventh anniversary. The message reads as follows:

Seven glorious years have already passed. The date 20 January 1975 is well known to us. The past 7 years have been a period of pride and glory for the Armenian people because of ASALA's great victories. No other revolutionary party in tens of years in the past has achieved even 1/10 of the victories you have achieved.

Greetings to you. You are the pride of the Armenian people. You are showing great determination in advancing along the path you have chosen -- a path without retreat. You have become the [word indistinct] family for the Armenian people. You have increased in number and have sprouted day by day and minute by minute. You have awakened a whole nation along with you. Our minds are always alert. We are united and are always with you. We are convinced that we will increase in number with every passing minute. We will become a power. These experiences will fortify us, and we will strike at our enemies more fiercely in order to regain the just rights of the Armenian people.

We warmly congratulate the army on its seventh anniversary and wish you new victories in your armed struggle.

Long live the revolutionary Armenian people! Long live the national movement! Long live Armenian solidarity! Long live the ASALA leaders! We extend our respect to our martyrs. [Signed] ASALA sympathizers, Tehran, Iran

ASALA TORONTO BRANCH PUBLISHES COMMUNIQUE

GF010507 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanese Armenians in Armenian 1330 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] A bomb exploded in the Turkish Embassy in Toronto on 14 January 1982, causing serious material damage. The Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia [ASALA] branch in Toronto claimed responsibility for the explosion. Following the explosion in the Turkish Embassy -- which was operating under the name of a Canadian establishment -- the ASALA branch in Toronto published a communique assailing the fascist Turkish junta and demanding that citizens stay away from all Turkish establishments. The communique reads as follows:

On 14 January 1982, a bomb was placed in the Turkish Embassy in Toronto, where the Turkish Embassy was operating under the name of a Canadian establishment. We did not intend to injure anyone. This was only a warning to everyone so they will stay away from Turkish establishments that represent the fascist junta. The bomb was detonated to protest the occupation of Armenian territories and the deportation of Armenians from their fatherland. A total of 1.5 million Armenians were slaughtered mercilessly in 1915. As a result of that incident, the Armenian people are now living in exile. The bloodthirsty junta is killing Armenians, Kurds and Turks. We demand that Canadian citizens and all Canadian democratic and revolutionary organizations support our struggle against the fascist Turkish Government to liberate our land and return our people to their homeland. We will strike unceasingly until our land has been liberated.

Long live the Armenian, Kurdish and Turkish struggles! Long live the struggle of the Quebecois and the aborigines for national rights and against injustice! Long live the struggle of all peoples whose rights have been suppressed! Victory is ours! [Signed] ASALA Organization, Toronto branch, 14 January 1982

ASALA ATTACKS FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S 'NEW PLOTS'

GF020437 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanese Armenians in Armenian 1330 GMT 18 Feb 82

[Text] We have received a press statement from the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia [ASALA] published on 18 February 1982.

The ASALA announcement provides a number of clarifications to French and international public opinion concerning the new plots that are being hatched by the French Government. ASALA's press statement reads as follows:

We have been informed by reliable sources that the French Government is preparing a political campaign against us to subvert our organization and revolutionary struggle. This campaign will be based on fabrications and rumors about so-called terrorists and terrorism.

We have also informed that a government leaflet has been distributed to the French press. The leaflet demands that when our organization carries out its next operation, the press must publish false news and information stating that ASALA has military centers in various countries in the Middle East. The leaflet also demands that rumors be published in order to convince the public that our targets do not serve the Armenian cause. We feel that it is necessary to make the following clarifications:

1. Our organization has never signed any secret arms treaties or established secret relations. We never hesitate to state the nature of our strategic alliances. We have relations with a number of revolutionary and national forces in the Middle East and throughout the world.

2. Our organization has no military camps in Syria, as the French media claim. The media attempt to defame us after each ASALA operation. We are very well aware of the fact that a number of imperialist countries are attempting to [word indistinct] in Syria. This is being done through terrorist activities carried out by agent and reactionary bandits. Meanwhile, they want to portray us as terrorists and destroy our cause. We warn the French public about such dangerous attempts and call on them to support our just and legal struggle against imperialist, Zionist and reactionary plans -- constantly hatching plots in the Middle East, particularly in Syria, Lebanon and occupied Palestine.

3. ASALA is undertaking and will continue to undertake the [word indistinct] of the Armenian people to return to their homeland. ASALA regards strategic alliances with imperialist, Zionist and reactionary governments as conflicting with its cause. Our organization warns all entities that are causing corruption. They will not be able to suppress our cause and weaken the will of the Armenian people and revolutionaries. Our target is the government that has occupied our land and all forces that support that government and are establishing strategic alliances with it.

[signed] ASALA, 18 Feb 1982

AL-ASAD RECEIVES HABIB, REAGAN'S MESSAGE

JN031224 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1030 today Philip Habib, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's personal envoy to the Middle East. Philip Habib conveyed to the president a message from President Reagan. The talks dealt with the contents of this message. At the end of the meeting, the president asked Habib to convey a message in reply to President Reagan.

Habib Departs

JN031634 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Philip Habib, the U.S. President's envoy to the Middle East, left Damascus this afternoon following a 2-day visit to the country. Nasir Qaddur, assistant foreign minister, and the U.S. charge d'affaires in Damascus saw Philip Habib off at the Damascus International Airport.

TISHRIN IDENTIFIES U.S. AS MAIN ARAB ENEMY

JN030822 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0630 GMT 3 Mar 82

[From the press review]

[Text] TISHRIN says: It has become obvious that the United States is the main enemy of the Arab nation and that the Zionist entity implements aggressive and expansionist action in the region only after total agreement and coordination with the U.S. administration.

Syria is confronting all the Zionist-imperialist reactionary tools in the region, headed by the criminal Muslim Brotherhood gang with its backward reactionary concepts which keep it outside the framework of a civilized society. The will of the masses will not allow society to be pushed into backwardness. As leader Al-Asad asserted in his interview with LE MONDE, our people's rejection of this criminal gang is not new; they rejected it long ago. This rejection has been firmly entrenched after the relationship between this gang and imperialism and Zionism has been exposed.

DAMASCUS RADIO SURVEYS ACTIVITIES IN GOLAN

JN031503 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Syrian Arab citizens in the occupied Golan Heights continue their open general strike, which entered a third week today, against the occupation authorities' oppressive measures and stress rejection of the enemy's decision to annex the Golan and adherence to Syrian nationality.

The enemy's radio has admitted that patriotic leaders in the occupied Golan have called for continuing the strike and rejecting the aggressive annexation decision. At the same time, citizens in the occupied Golan have refused to obey enemy attempts to force them to accept Israeli identity cards and to allow food to be brought by the occupation authorities to the occupied heights. Following the failure of their oppressive measures to force the Arab citizens to end the strike, the Zionist occupation authorities arrested a number of Majdal Shams citizens for organizing the strike.

At the United Nations, Syria accused the Israeli enemy of waging massive arrest campaigns against Syrian citizens in the occupied Golan Heights because of the general strike declared in response to the Israeli annexation decision. Diya' Allah al-Fattal, Syrian UN ambassador, stressed in a message to the UN secretary general yesterday that Israel has been consolidating forces in the Golan Heights since the annexation decision 14 December.

Al-Fattal added that when Arab citizens in the occupied West Bank began to contribute money to Syrian citizens suffering from hunger in the occupied Golan, military forces besieged the Golan to interdict the contributions and arrested five persons for collecting them. The Syrian ambassador said that foreign representatives, even Israeli authorities, are imposing a series of oppressive measures to force Syrian citizens to accept Israeli identity cards.

Al-Fattal explained that the Israeli authorities have refused to register 70 percent of newly-born Arab children. They have also refused to give marriage licenses to Arabs. Arabs are not granted driver's licenses because they refuse to carry Israeli identity cards. He asked that his message be circulated as an official document of the UN General Assembly and the Security Council.

ATH-THAWRAH VIEWS MITTERRAND'S VISIT TO ISRAEL

JN040840 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0630 GMT 4 Mar 82

[From the press review]

[Text] ATH-THAWRAH says: French President Mitterrand's visit to the Zionist entity can only be described as a negative factor in France's role and a hostile step against the Arabs as well as an action supporting and encouraging the aggressor to continue its aggression. Mitterrand's risk in this visit cannot be isolated from France's subservience to a U.S. policy that asserts that there are only minor differences among the colonial states on Arab issues.

IMPLICATION IN BEIRUT ASSASSINATION DENIED

JN040940 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0850 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Paris, 4 Mar (SANA) -- The Syrian Embassy in Paris has strongly protested the press campaign and wave of contentions directed by French newspapers against Syria, particularly concerning the complications of the assassination of the French ambassador in Beirut. The Syrian ambassador in Paris lodged an official complaint at the French Foreign Ministry yesterday. However, a French Foreign Ministry official has asserted that the claims published by some French newspapers do not reflect France's official views, pointing out that France is endeavoring to develop friendly relations with Syria.

PEACE COUNCIL DELEGATION RETURNS FROM GDR VISIT

JN021556 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1455 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Damascus, 2 Mar (SANA) -- A delegation of the Syrian Peace Council led by Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, Ba'th Party national command member and council president, returned to Damascus from Berlin yesterday evening at the end of a week's visit to the GDR at the invitation of the GDR solidarity committee.

Talks focused on issues of mutual interest, particularly in the Middle East and Europe, and the need to close the ranks of world forces of peace and liberation against the policy of confrontation that U.S. imperialism, world Zionism and those in their orbits are escalating against the cause of the people's liberation, progress and security.

A joint statement issued on the visit stressed that both sides have identical views in that peace is being exposed to grave dangers by the arms policy, thus making it necessary for peace-loving forces to unite in efforts to protect the world from the danger of nuclear war. The Syrian and GDR sides expressed anxiety over the exacerbation of the international situation as a result of the dangerous practices of world imperialism, led by the United States and Zionism.

The two sides condemned Israel's decision to annex the occupied Arab Syrian Golan Heights which violates all international laws and norms. They also supported the UN resolution calling for sanctions against the Israeli aggressor. The GDR side expressed solidarity with the Arabs' just struggle for regaining their legitimate rights. Both sides stressed the importance of supporting the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front and increasing its capability to confront U.S. imperialist, Zionist and reactionary conspiracies.

PARTY OFFICIAL MEETS USSR DEPUTY MINISTER

JN032005 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Comrade Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, assistant regional secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and chairman of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee in Syria, received at his office this evening Comrade Yuriy Barabash, the first deputy minister of the USSR Ministry of Culture and Chairman of the USSR-Palestinian Friendship Society, and his delegation. The USSR ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting.

Talks centered on friendly bilateral relations and means of further promoting them. They also discussed the current developments in the Arab arena in light of the Arab masses' confrontation of the U.S. imperialist and Zionist designs and the Zionist aggressive annexation of the occupied Golan. They also discussed the alliance between Syria and the Palestinian revolution as well as with the world liberation powers in order to face and repulse all these designs.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES SUPPORT CABLE FROM KHAMENE'I

JN281427 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 28 Feb 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has received a cable from Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in reply to his excellency's congratulations on the annual anniversary of the victory of the Islamic revolution in Iran. The text of the cable reads:

President Hafiz al-Asad of Syria: I thank you for your friendly congratulations on the occasion of the 4th anniversary of the victory of the glorious Iranian Islamic revolution. This revolution stands on pillars of brotherhood, peace and friendship with all Muslims, particularly those people who truly constitute an Islamic front confronting imperialist-Zionist onslaughts.

We consider the cause of Golan and Jerusalem our cause and an occupation of our land. It is our duty to liberate them just as we liberate our occupied cities and villages. We not only consider Israel, the criminal and usurper, an enemy of our Arab brothers but an enemy of the joint aspirations and objectives of all Muslims.

There is no doubt that, when we end our war with the contaminated imperialist agent who unhesitatingly commits ugly tasks -- so far from the spirit of -- Islam against defenseless innocent people, we will support you in the confrontation front against Zionism and will participate in the war against the imperialist cancer.

I seize this opportunity to reiterate the support of the Iranian revolutionary government and masses for your struggle against the Zionist entity and its defenders. I also wish you success in serving the holy aims of the Syrian people. I wish the zealous struggling Syrian people victory and happiness. [signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran

BA'TH PARTY, FATAH DELEGATION HOLD TALKS

Khaddam, Salah Khalaf Meet

JN271345 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 27 Feb 82

[Text] A Syrian-Palestinian meeting was held at the Foreign Ministry this morning. The Syrian side comprised 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam; Comrade Muhammad Haydar, Ba'th Party National Command member and head of the party Foreign Relations Office; Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and head of the party's Organizational Affairs Office; Comrade Wahib Tannus, Regional Command member and head of the Higher Education Office; and Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

The Palestinian side comprised Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunayn], Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], Hani al-Hasan, Qadri [Samih Quwayq] and members of the Fatah Central Committee.

The two sides reviewed the current Arab and international situation, the intensification of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught against the Arab nation and the importance of bolstering Syrian-Palestinian cohesion to face this fierce onslaught.

Meetings Resume 3 Mar

JN031147 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Ba'th Party and Fatah delegations resumed talks in Damascus this morning to seek a unified work strategy. The meeting took place at the Foreign Ministry.

The Ba'th Party delegation was headed by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The Fatah delegation was headed by Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad; Fatah Central Committee member.

VOP Report

NC031516 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1245 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] This morning the Palestinian-Syrian talks between the delegation of the Palestinian National Liberation Movement headed by brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, and the command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party headed by the Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, resumed at the Syrian Foreign Ministry. The talks aim at formulating ideas reviewed in previous rounds of talks into a working paper to serve as the basis for a Syrian-Palestinian strategy to face expected developments on the Palestinian level and in the Syrian and Palestinian arenas.

On the Palestinian side, the talks were attended by Brothers Abu Salih [Nimr Salih], Abu al-Hawl [Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid], Hani al-Hasan, and Qadri [Samih Quwayq], members of the Fatah Central Committee. On the Syrian side the talks were attended by Comrade Muhammad Haydar, a member of the Ba'th National Command and director of the Foreign Relations Office, and Comrade Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs.

Subcommittee Formed

JN040506 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Ba'th Party and Fatah delegations last night agreed to form a subcommittee for shaping the ideas, principles and bases previously agreed upon concerning the charting of a unified strategy to confront the U.S.-Zionist designs in the region. The two delegations resumed talks at the Foreign Ministry last night.

DPRK DELEGATION WINDS UP VISIT, DEPARTS 3 MAR

JN040526 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] The Korean Workers Party delegation led by Comrade Kim Ki-nam, member of the party's Central Committee, left Damascus this evening at the end of a visit of several days to Syria. While in Syria, the DPRK delegation held talks with party and state officials. The guest delegation was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Comrade Sabi al-Ansari, Ba'th Party National Command reserve member and the DPRK ambassador in Damascus.

MONGOLIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR TALKS 26 FEB

JN270526 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] Comrade T. Namsray, Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee member, has reiterated the Mongolian People's Republic's -- struggle under comrade struggler President Hafiz al-Asad against all imperialist and Zionist conspiracies.

In a statement to the SANA correspondent, the Mongolian official wished Syria further prosperity and progress, expressing hope that the visit will strengthen relations between the parties and peoples in their friendly countries.

Comrade Namsray arrived in Damascus this afternoon at the head of an MPRP delegation on a visit of several days at the invitation of the Ba'th Party National Command.

Ba'th-MPRP Talks

JN280544 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 28 Feb 82

[Text] A talk session was held at the Ba'th Party National Command building yesterday between a Ba'th Party delegation led by Ahmad al-Hasan, Ba'th Party National Command reserve member, and a Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] delegation under Comrade Namsray, MPRP Central Committee member.

The discussion focused on relations of friendship and cooperation between the parties and ways of promoting them to serve of the two peoples' interests and their joint struggle against imperialism, Zionism and their reactionary agents. They also discussed issues of interest to the parties and countries, particularly developments in the Middle East.

Comrade Ahmad al-Hasan reviewed developments and tension in the region as a result of Israel's policy of aggression and expansion backed and encouraged by U.S. imperialism. He also reviewed the conspiracies concocted against Syria by the Muslim Brotherhood gang supported and incited by imperialist and Zionist quarters with the intent of confusing Syria and diverting attention from its confrontation of the capitulatory schemes embodied in the Camp David accords.

Comrade al-Hasan also explained Syria's economic achievements under the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its secretary general, comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad.

The MPRP delegation head reiterated the support of Mongolia -- party, government and people -- for the just Arab causes and for the just struggle the Arab nation is waging against imperialism and Zionism. He expressed the MPRP's appreciation for the important role that Syria is assuming to bolster Arab steadfastness for confronting the Camp David conspiracy and denounced Israel's policy of aggression and expansion, particularly its decision to annex the occupied Golan Heights.

3 Mar Meeting

JN032046 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, warned against the dangers of U.S. policy against the Arab people, which consequently threatens the security and safety of the region and the world as well.

This came about during a meeting with a Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] delegation under Namsray, MPRP Central Committee member. The meeting was attended by Comrade Ahmad al-Hasan, National Command reserve member.

Comrade al-Ahmar outlined the nature of the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary onslaught and the designs that aim at imposing surrender on the Arab nation. He also explained and exposed U.S. support for Israel and its military, political and economic aid to the enemy so it can continue its aggression against the Arab nation.

He also emphasized that the United States keeps instigating reactionary agents in the Muslim Brotherhood gangs to plot against Syria's steadfastness and against the Palestinian Arab people to liquidate their cause. He stressed that the United States has also challenged international will on punishing Israel for annexing the occupied Syrian Golan Heights.

Comrade al-Ahmar asserted that our people will continue to face all colonial designs and any Israeli aggression. This people, he added, is determined to bring about its objectives under the leadership of militant Comrade Hafiz al-Asad until the liberation of occupied Arab territories and the restoration of inalienable Palestinian rights, including the right to repatriation and to establish an independent state in Palestine.

Comrade al-Ahmar underlined the importance of unity among peoples in their confrontation of imperialism and Zionism. He expressed his gratitude for the socialist bloc states, particularly the friendly Soviet Union, for their backing of our right and of our people's struggle to achieve just objectives.

The head of the Mongolian delegation praised Syria's valiant stand under the leadership of militant Comrade Hafiz al-Asad and its confrontation of imperialism and Zionism.

He reiterated his country's firm support for the Arab people's struggle against the Camp David conspiracy and against all the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary designs until the defeat of all these conspiracies, the liberation of occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the Palestinian Arab people's constant rights.

He also condemned Israel's decision to annex the occupied Syrian Golan Heights and expressed his faith that the Arab nation's free will will triumph in the end.

FRANCE SAID STUDYING REQUEST FOR NUCLEAR POWER

TA031125 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] France is examining an Israeli request to buy a nuclear power station, and the issue will most probably be raised in the meeting between the prime minister and President Mitterrand. This has been reported this morning by unofficial sources to our correspondent in Paris, Gil'ad Shar. According to them, the chief problem in the link between this power station and the outline of the sea-to-sea canal, part of which is to pass through the administered territories. Israel apparently consented to accept international supervision on this particular station only, but not over the rest of its nuclear installations. France's official stand to date has been to not cooperate with Israel in nuclear matters, since it refuses to accept international supervision over its activities.

NAVON, FRENCH PRESIDENT HOLD MEETING 3 MAR

TA031557 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1545 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Report by Tzvi Zerahya from the presidential residence in Jerusalem on meeting between French President Mitterrand and President Navon]

[Text] The meeting of the two presidents lasted about an hour. The Palestinian problem, the relations between Israel and Egypt and events in the region were discussed. At the end of the meeting, Navon said:

[Begin Navon recording] It was a nice, very interesting, hopefully constructive talk. I thank you very much. [end recording]

Mitterrand thanked President Navor for the reception he was accorded here and said that in the conversation with the president difficult issues were raised concerning bilateral matters. The French president explained that it is still too premature to issue statements, adding that at the conclusion of his visit he will hold a news conference.

The meeting between the two presidents was attended by the French ambassador to Israel and our ambassador to France. Meanwhile, Mrs Navon hosted Mrs Mitterrand for a talk with noted Israeli women. This evening, the president will host the Mitterrands at a state banquet in the Knesset building.

DETAILS OF SHAMIR-CHEYSSON TALKS REPORTED

TA031728 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] This evening French President Francois Mitterrand is meeting with the prime minister for an opening talk. At the same time, the French external relations minister is meeting with his counterpart, Yitzhaq Shamir. We will now go over to the prime minister's office, to our correspondent there, Shim'on Schiffer.

[Schiffer] In another few minutes the first meeting between Mitterrand and Menahem Begin is due to end, and we will report in full detail after the talk, but already, only a few hours after the beginning of the visit by French President Francois Mitterrand, the Israeli officials who met the president's entourage were able to feel the change that is occurring in the relations between the two countries. Mitterrand, who declared on his arrival that he is a genuine friend of Israel, has apparently also instructed his ministers and advisers accordingly.

This is what External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson said to Yitzhaq Shamir: In the foreseeable future, there will not be any political initiative by the European countries to deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict. In another month two joint committees will meet at the same time in Jerusalem and Paris to deal with the tightening of economic and cultural ties. The establishment of a joint fund for industrial research will also be declared soon. And, in order to emphasize the goodwill, two of the French president's advisers told an Israeli official this afternoon, with the president's approval, that France will be prepared to help Israel in renewing diplomatic relations with several African countries and even to appear together with Israel and cooperate in various projects in those countries. In the talk with External Relations Minister Cheysson, it is supposed that Shamir asked France to behave firmly with regard to the Arab boycott and not to permit French companies to surrender to it.

As we said, there are not yet any details of the talk held between the prime minister and the French president. The topics that were supposed to be raised are known. Not even the points of dispute will be kept secret. We will not be giving anything away if we say that the French president's remarks on his arrival about two nations who live here -- and he meant the Israeli nation and the Palestinian nation -- did not meet agreement with the prime minister. This fact, however, will be emphasized during the 50-hour visit by Francois Mitterrand. France and Israel are today opening a new page, open and filled with good intentions, in their relations.

BEGIN, MITTERRAND DISCUSS PALESTINIAN ISSUE

TA031801 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1745 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] We have just learned from the prime minister's office that the meeting between Prime Minister Menahem Begin and his guest, French President Francois Mitterrand, ended a few minutes ago. We will now go over to our correspondent there, Shim'on Schiffer, to learn whether or not there is any news about that meeting. Shim'on?

[Schiffer] You definitely will hear something. The talk ended 15 minutes ago and the prime minister's spokesman, Uri Porat, briefed us. He said the talk touched on the issues: the danger to Israel of the establishment of a Palestinian state, the danger of such a state, and Israel's position on the solution for Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district. For this purpose the head of the IDF intelligence branch, Maj Gen Yehoshu'a Sagi, was summoned to attend a certain stage of the talk, and he presented the problem, with the accompaniment of maps, regarding the dangers that Israel sees in the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Prime Minister Menahem Begin presented the solution Israel is proposing, the autonomy program, in full detail. He presented French President Francois Mitterrand with a document, translated into French, the same document Israel presented a few weeks ago to U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. This is a paper that sums up Israel's positions on the matter of autonomy, how it sees this program and what it is prepared to hand over to the administrative council that is to be established in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza district.

Spokesman Porat commented that the talk had been held in a very friendly atmosphere. President Mitterrand asked questions and received the prime minister's detailed replies about Israel's position on this matter. Two ambassadors took part in the talk -- our ambassador to Paris, Me'ir Rosenne, and the French ambassador to Israel, Jacques Bonnefous. The prime minister spoke in Hebrew, the president spoke in French and -- something that perhaps touches us -- the director of the news department [of the Voice of Israel -- 'Imanu'el Halperin, also took part in the talk. I understand that he helped to translate several things that had to be translated.

ARIDOR, FRENCH FINANCE MINISTER HOLD TALKS

TA031628 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1555 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] A short while ago the meeting between the finance ministers of Israel and France ended in Jerusalem.

Our correspondent on economic affairs, 'Oded Shahar, reports that no conclusions were reached at the meeting, but that the ground work was laid for strengthening economic and trade ties between Israel and France. Finance Minister Yoram Aridor raised a series of proposals for economic cooperation before his counterpart, Jacques Delors. He expressed Israel's appreciation for the legislation passed in France against the Arab boycott and asked France to help boost Israeli agricultural exports to EEC countries. It appears that the next stage of the deliberations will be held at the expert level. The French minister is currently in session with members of the Knesset Finance Committee.

FRANCE'S CHEYSSON REASSURES SHAMIR OF SUPPORT

TA031938 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1915 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Excerpt] Reacting to what Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had told him about Arab attempts to have Israel expelled from international organizations, Minister Cheysson said that France will take action to prevent these attempts. At the end of the meeting, a decision was made to convene the joint Israeli-French committee for cooperation in economics, technology and science immediately after the passover holiday.

KNESSET BANQUET HELD IN HONOR OF MITTERRAND

Mitterrand Speech

TA032318 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2200 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Speech by French President Francois Mitterrand, in French, at a state banquet in the Knesset building in his honor: processed from Hebrew translation read after the speech -- live]

[Text] Mr President, Mr Prime Minister, ladies and gentlemen: Nothing that takes place here today can be mentioned without going back to the sources, and I can still recall when my mother, who read the Bible every day, described things to me: This is the book of the Jewish people. We are not Jewish, but still their history constitutes part of our history. Although some 4,000 years have passed, we nevertheless know the story of how the family grew, became a tribe, and in turn became a little nation that grew, which later dispersed all over the world and got to know others, too. They became part of the struggles, the wars and also of peace and amity -- part of the history of the human race. It was one people out of many, and slowly it found its way.

Already as a young boy I tried to understand, to notice the mistakes, the line separating liberty from identity. [as heard] What kind of liberty? The freedom of man. But beyond that, that of the spirit, because I know that even there is a desire to express the thousands of years of happiness and sadness through philosophy and man's quest -- a search for what? Toward unity. What is unity? The unity of a family, a people and a nation on the face of earth. Unity per se is what was sought after. Thus the Jewish people sought to find its path.

A peoples does not only seek unity; it also contributes to it and you have contributed more than you have received in return. We know that the history you have experienced -- and there are some people here who are more or less my age, a bit younger or a bit older, -- you, too, experienced the same things as myself: the years 1935, 1940, 1945. After all, you have been molded like me, and therefore a person who grew from the same roots as my mother, as I told you, how could he not be touched by the drama of the Jew, the drama of the European Jews?

At the time, I was a prisoner, and it was the Germany of Hitler -- after I was injured -- and I can still remember that questionnaire distributed among us, unknown soldiers that we were, in the face of a then victorious Germany. That paper included a question: What faith do you profess?

Then, the reply given by that comrade sho is a friend for life of mine, and whose son is here with us, was Jewish. He was not religious, but that day he felt the need to say he was Jewish. After all, when one is asked, one is expected to answer. And he signed it in Germany, in the year 1941, in a document. He wrote there: Jewish. That was the first time he had acknowledged it. I admired that courage.

I must teli you about yet another experience, back in France in 1942 and 1943, with the holocaust raged, with broken families, when even names were not carved on grave stones of some Jewish families. Thus, one can say, that in that Europe, the Europe of civilization and of hundreds of years of freedom, beauty, art, unity -- how was it possible that such things could take place? But how could culture continue? That was yet another question.

Yes, we did experience this. And I would say further: My friends and those whom I knew to be Jews and non-Jews, the Jews among them were in fact to me more precious, having a hope which to my mind made them stand out more than the others.

If God chose, or any other omnipotent force, then it would have chosen them because they, more than the others, realized the drama of life, the noble value of life without having control of the drama of life.

In 1935 -- and Mr Prime Minister, you mentioned it -- I began my political life. I was a minister for the war veterans -- and many were war veterans at the time. I remember the exodus. Some said France could perhaps have been more generous than others -- well, I remember 1948, too, when there was a shift from preliminary struggles to the victory of existence. We will, however, talk about this some other time, perhaps tomorrow.

These are but thoughts that I raise. Israel is defending rights, and France is proud of having contributed toward guaranteeing this, too, on the face of the earth.

You said: How could it be that two nations could live without a difference even once erupting between them? What couple could live on this earth without a fight? All the more so with disputes and differences between nations. After all, they have different concerns and goals. They also intend to chooose their path according to their considerations, not according to the considerations of others.

Clearly, our countries are different. The question is why do the differences remain so persistent, remaining for 14 or 15 years? Clearly the time has come to retrieve some degree of continuity to that history in a way that will be beneficial to our nations.

We do not agree on everything, this is obvious. We see your future primarily -- for, after all the subject is you -- and although you are a consistent people, the policy is disputed. [sentence as heard] That is the source of problems: You have not yet established clear relations with others -- Jews, Arabs and others. The Arabs are your brothers, from the same nation. This issue involves every Jew, and it, too, is one for which a solution is being sought.

What then is France's role? It is not to talk instead of those who live here, who did not draw on the same sources and are not as much exposed to things. You must understand that a friend is no friend unless he maintains his judgment capability and says what he things for the sake of peace, too. I always ask myself questions, but not always am I ready to come up with answers. Once I wrote something that may perhaps illustrate this: I always respect those who seek, but I suspect those who find. This is no explanation, but it would be a bit presumptuous to suggest solutions to the Jewish people or to other nations. Those who live the problem are the ones that should resolve it.

I ask questions, as every head of state standing by the friends of the people of Israel will do. But the question is really whether a nation can exist if it does not have a means of existence.

Since you, Mr President and Mr Prime Minister and members of the Knesset and members of the National Assembly because you all have a role to play and because you must solve the problems of the history of your nation, that is why I listen so attentively to everything I have been told since this morning in talks with you, Mr Prime Minister, and with you, Mr President, and beginning tomorrow with others as well. This evening, however, we are celebrating friendship full of vitality and strength. Simple friendship. Without boasting, look at what was done jointly in the past, take a look at what unites us. It would be worthwhile that we begin it again. Differences between countries pass; the basic truth is that you may live and guarantee life for the next generations. The question is how to turn the life of your people into an eternity.

I have been in your country for some hours now, and I have already added some pictures to the album I have been collecting in the course of my last seven visits.

I visited your country with great curiosity. At the time it was easier to run away from duties -- although they were pleasant -- the official duties, and to be more exposed to the street, to see horizons and a tree. Perhaps on Friday I will be able to see a bit more, but this is not the purpose of my visit. If I observe that tree -- a tree in bloom, symbol of approaching spring -- with the rains that welcomed me, heralding a promise of harvest, the symbol of the relations between Israel and France at a moment it is really worthwhile to think that this brings a pledge to reap something in the future. The reaper's steps are slow and small, but it is necessary to treat the furrow and toe the line. The harvester has no time to turn back; he must look forward.

I wish Israel and France friendship, to prepare the times for that harvest which will yield fruit after the blossom -- the fruit of peace, prosperity and friendship. [applause]

Navon Speech

TA032155 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2130 GMT 3 Mar 82

[President Yitzhaq Navon's speech at a state banquet in the Knesset building in honor of President Francois Mitterrand -- live]

[Text] Honorable ladies and gentlemen: Before I begin my remarks, I would like to send our best wishes for recovery to Mrs 'Aliza Begin, for a rapid and complete recovery and also to you, Mr Prime Minister. We regret that she is not with us, but we hope to see her, hale and hearty among us, soon.

Honorable President of France and Mrs Mitterrand, dear guests: We are not blase and I admit that we are excited at seeing the tricolor flag waving in Jerusalem, with the sounds of the French national anthem resounding in our ears, conjuring up a host of memories, scenes and experiences.

Each nation has its own characteristics. Our nation has developed the trait of a good memory. In a few days we will be celebrating the Purim holiday, commemorating the saving of Jews in Persia from a decree of annihilation some 2,400 years ago. Yesterday a memorial ceremony was held for soldiers whose resting place is not known. The date was not coincidental. It was the 7th day of the month of Adar, the day Moses died and his burial place is not known. This is how the lord decreed it. Our history cannot be taught as sheer information, but as an object for emotional identification. This is a precept passed on from one generation to another: not to forget the good or the bad, things that make the heart joyous, or things that cause pain. This decree unites us into one nation, even though it constitutes quite a burden on our children. It is difficult to condense millenia into a small number of years. The past, the present and the future sometimes get mixed up. My young daughter -- Na'ama -- met the Italian ambassador in our home when he concluded his term in office.

She opened her eyes wide with amazement: Daddy, but the Romans destroyed the temple, so why are you inviting him to our house? My explanation that 2,000 years have passed since that destruction just added to her puzzlement. If so much time has elapsed since that event, then why are we still mourning it so bitterly?

Mr President Mitterrand, our store of memories holds an honorable place for your great country, where fertile Jewish spiritual life developed for centuries even though there were, indeed, some hard times as well.

The principles of 1789 opened a new era in the lives of nations, ours included. This is when the Jewish emancipation also began.

We will remember that your country became the refuge for our people's refugees from the Orient, from the Balkans and North Africa. During the black days of the nazi regime, your country's courageous resistance gave a helping hand to the Jewish fighters who wanted to fight the common enemy.

To our regret, in some countries the Jewish partisans did not enjoy a similar attitude on the part of underground fighters; moreover, they were sometimes even persecuted by them.

We will remember that the times when tens of thousands of refugees worked to reach their ancient homeland, and when their path was blocked by the British fleet, it was your country that granted them defense, protection and aid. We will never forget this.

A few years ago, Israeli writer Hayim Guri paid a call on Eduard Dupre who was the interior minister in the old fateful days. He found a very old man, ailing and paralyzed. They discussed that heroic and tragic period, talked about refugees and the exodus and also about the political pressures from outside.

In his statements, Dupre said, among other things: The Jews were despicably and cruelly persecuted by Hitler, and that is why I felt it my duty to lend them help. I had been brought up on the glorious spirit of Jean Jaures and Leon Blum. I am convinced I remained faithful to it every moment of my life, whatever the difficulties. I fought for a true Socialist International, not for a party given to outside pressure, even if it comes from friends. He was hinting at the British Labor Party.

We will similarly remember that in the first difficult years of our country's existence, we received from your country that vital aid necessary for the defense of our existence. Later, there also came an ebb in our relations.

We know that there cannot be a complete identity of views between two countries, even if they are parties to the same pact. What we do expect is to have a friendly and open dialogue between us, with understanding for each other's needs and interests based on shared human values which are steeped in a desire for peace. Even if differences crop up between us, they will not shatter this common foundation.

Mr President: These days we are celebrating the centennial of rural settlement in Israel. It is difficult to think of this important chapter in our annals without thinking of Karl (Netter), Adolf Cremieux, Edmond de Rothschild and the Alliance [Jewish association in France]. We ourselves discovered every day unbelievable new pieces of information on the very first pioneers. Beyond everything else, we are impressed by the spiritual capacity of people who dealt with commerce, the law or medicine to change their professions and turn husbandry and all physical labor into the epitome of self-fulfillment and national realization.

As is well known history does not stand still. As a Greek philosopher said, everything keeps flowing.

The world is open and concepts of materialism affect us and we must keep reminding ourselves of old, basic truths in a changing reality. We are constantly being torn between our desire to be like all the nations and our desire to maintain our uniqueness. Ahead of us is a lengthy job of solidifying a nation out of individuals who have come here from 102 countries, speaking 81 languages. We are pondering very deeply how to close the socioeconomic gap between the people of Asian and African extraction and those of a European or U.S. origin. We still are faced with the great challenge of inhabiting the desert, the Negev which covers 60 percent of Israeli soil. Nor have we been blessed in other areas. Ben-Gurion used to say: In the Bible, God promised to give us a land of milk and honey, but he did not promise us oil. Water, too, is rather scarce in our country. I am not suggesting that you form an impression on the basis of the rains that fell on both of us, and all of us today.

All these are overshadowed by the question of our future relations with our Arab neighbors. No doubt, this question will feature very prominently in your talks with us, with the prime minister and the political leaders in Israel, and this is not the place to expound on this.

I will say only this: Peace with Egypt constitutes an historic breakthrough. Just as yesterday it appeared to be impossible, while today it has become a reality, just so tomorrow a reality which presently seems inconceivable might become a reality. We hope that with the moral support of our friends, through great patience and goodwill on the part of the parties, we might perhaps be able to reach that very different reality which we all want.

Honorable President Mitterrand: We have perused your heroic biography, we have seen you visit our country occasionally. We saw you on Rue Copernique [street in Paris where synagogue was attacked], we heard you come out in support of our peace agreement with Egypt and Camp David. We have always listened to you with open ears and an open heart. We saw in you a humane, courageous politician of principles, faithful to himself and his idealism. We are extremely pleased to see you among us.

Now, ladies and gentlemen: I would like to propose a toast of wishes for the good health of the visiting president and his wife, for the prosperity of great France and for the renewed opening of an era of real freindship between our nations. I will try to say this in French. [Navon raises a toast in French]

Begin Speech

TA032244 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2150 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Speech by Prime Minister Menahem Begin in French given at a state banquet in the Knesset building in honor of French President Francois Mitterrand; processed from French -- live]

[Text] Mr President of the Israeli republic [as heard] and madame; Mr President of the French Republic, and madame; messrs ministers of both governments, messrs deputies of the National Assembly and of the Knesset, messrs members of the diplomatic corps, dear guests:

First of all, I would beg you to excuse the fact that I am speaking to you seated, but you know that I am still a little ill. Our eminent guest, President Francois Mitterrand, perhaps does not remember an episode which has remained engraved in my memory and which I would like to tell you about. It was after a long night at the National Assembly of the Fourth Republic, before dawn of 4 February 1955 when the government presided over by Pierre Mendes-France fell, a government in which our host was the minister of the interior. I had an appointment with him for that same morning, 4 February 1955. Of course, I appeared understanding well that Mr Mitterrand would not that day be in the mood to conduct a friendly conversation with a member of the Israeli opposition.

But the French minister of the interior received me courteously, smiled cordially at me and said to me: You were to have met a minister; you are going to meet a former minister. I replied: Titles are not at all important for me, what matters is friendship. I know, Mr Minister, that you are a friend of Israel and also a fighter in the French resistance and that is why I have come to see you. Then I gave Mr Mitterrand my book, "The Revolt," with this dedication: For my comrade in arms, because liberty does not know any frontiers and one thread unites the hearts of all the fighters for liberty wherever they are.

That was how our first meeting went. That was 27 years ago. Since then, we often met again, in France or Israel. I have always found in you, Mr President, a true friend. Twenty-seven years is not a small thing and today, too, you are a former minister because you have been elected president by the French nation. You should know that very many Israelis received your election with joy and, as for me, it caused me profound joy. It was not surprising. A great friend of our country, Mr President Francois Mitterrand, gained the confidence of the French people to preside over its destiny for 7 years, years that may be decisive, not in a negative sense, but in a positive sense; not for slavery, but for liberty for all of humanity.

Frnace has given many precious brave values to all nations. We will never forget that the great French revolution caused the walls of the ghettos to fall, the ghetto where our ancestors lived for centuries. The French revolution emancipated the Jews. Yes, later new ghettos were created, worse than the old ones, worse than ever in history but the suppression of the ghettos of the Middle Ages set our people on the right path. In the emancipation a seed was found for the movement of liberation of the Jewish people, Zionism, to which we have been faithful with all our souls and with all our hearts, from childhood to this very day. Eretz Yisra'el, Zionism says, is our homeland where we will return, where we will live, where we will be free forever and peace and brotherhood will reign between us and our neighbors. Zionism is one of the most prodigious liberation movements of humanity. We will continue to realize it and we will sing its praises to the end.

Dear friends: I raise my glass in honor of the president of the French Republic, our great friend Francois Mitterrand, and in your honor, madame. Long live France! Long live Israel! Long live liberty! Long live the renewed friendship between the French nation and the Jewish nation, between the French Republic and the Republic of Israel!

CHEYSSON CALLS FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH PALESTINIANS

TA040933 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 4 Mar 82 p 1

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Text] French Minister of External Relations Claude Cheysson has told MA'ARIV that "in the future there will be no other choice but to establish a Palestinian state."

Mr Cheysson said Israel must recognize the Palestinian entity and that only through direct negotiations between the parties would it be possible to properly solve the Palestinian problem. As long as a solution to this problem has not been found, a comprehensive peace in the Middle East would obviously not be accomplished.

Replying to MA'ARIV's questions at the reception for French President Francois Mitterrand in the Knesset, the visiting minister of external relations said that his country does not intend to initiate a political move in the Middle East but that France's opinion about the Palestinian issue and the need to grant recognition and self-determination to the Palestinians was well-known.

Mr Cheysson said the European initiative did not in fact exist and France would not support any attempt to revive this initiative.

According to him, a solution to the Middle East problem could be reached only by the parties themselves through direct negotiations. Mr Cheysson expressed his view that in the future there would be no other choice but for Israel and the Palestinians to enter direct negotiations with the aim of reaching a just solution of the problem." [quotation marks as published] The French minister of external relations expressed his amazement at the bitterness that was aroused in Jerusalem by his remarks in Baghdad in favor of the need to establish a Palestinian state and to conduct direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. He said he had not voiced any exceptional opinions liable to hurt Israel or arouse its bitterness.

PERES HOLDS PRIVATE MEETING WITH MITTERRAND

TA040822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] The French president is now visiting at Yad Vashem. Earlier, he had a private talk with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres. Our correspondent Arye Golan spoke with Knesset Member Peres.

[Begin recording] [Peres] There is almost no subject we have not talked about, including a review of the sitation in the Middle East, the Iraq-Iran war, the Syrian conquests in Lebanon, the situation in Jordan. Afterward we discussed possible solutions. I understood from the president, and I hope I will also state it in the Knesset, that he himself is, in fact, not bound to a solution of any kind. Any solution likely to be adopted -- without compulsion, of course -- is a solution he will support, because he is seeking a solution, not a specific solution.

[Question] Including a solution that is called autonomy?

[Answer] Including a solution called autonomy, even though I am not sure that there is much chance for autonomy to be, in fact, realized.

[Question] Knesset member Peres, do you feel this visit by the president of France will also have practical results -- and perhaps in the near future? We hear reports about the sale of a reactor for the production of electricity, things of this kind.

[Answer] I did not discuss this with him, but what I am certain about is that this visit is an excellent opening and now it has to be filled with substance. [end recording]

SYRIANS ATTACK JORDANIANS TWICE 'LAST WEEK'

TA031518 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Last week there were two shooting incidents between Syria and Jordan. This has been learned by our correspondent on Arab affairs, Aharon Barne'a, from travelers who have arrived in Judaea and Samaria from Amman. On 24 February two Syrian helicopters attacked a Jordanian army observation post near the border of the two countries and Iraq and an armored vehicle was hit. Two days prior to that the Syrians fired machineguns at a Jordanian patrol near the border pass in the (Ramsa) region. There was no damage and the travelers said the Jordanians censored these incidents. According to them, Jordan fears a worsening of the dispute with Syria. Last week it was learned that the two countries were expelling the military attaches and that Syria was cutting down its diplomatic staff in Amman.

EGYPT'S FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT 15-17 MARCH

TA040742 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Egyptian Foriegn Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said he would visit Israel from March 15th to 17th.

He said the main subject would be unresolved problems about the new border in the Sinai. These include the area south of Elat and the town of Rafah due to be split in half by the new frontier. 'Ali denied reports that he plans to visit Israel Monday for a few hours to discuss the border problems.

SETTLERS TRANSFERRED; BORDER POSTS BEING BUILT

TA031925 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] The Hazar Adar settlers who were evacuated this morning were transferred this afternoon to Moshav Kefar Maymon near Netivot. The ITIM correspondent reports that three of the settlers were taken to the Beersheba police station and one of them, who had received head wounds, was examined in the Soroka hospital and then sent back to his colleagues. From the Yamit District itself the ITIM correspondent reports that the construction of the new border posts between Israel and Egypt, near the Avshalom crossroads, has begun. The Solel Boneh company won the bid for the construction of the posts on both sides of the border.

'AZMONA TO BE TREATED AS PERMAMENT SETTLEMENT

TA031954 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1930 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Excerpt] The IDF has this evening informed the inhabitants of 'Azmona that there is no intention of evicting them in the next few days. This is reported by our defense affairs correspondent, Ron Ben-Yishay. It looks as if the IDF intends to treat 'Azmona as one of the permanent Yamit District settlements, and handle the 'Azmona residents as it handles other permanent settlements of the district. This evening quiet prevailed in the town of Yamit and in the other settlements in the district. The IDF is still maintaining the (?routine practice) in the roadblocks and is patrolling the highways between one roadblock and another to spot infiltrations by members of the Movement To Stop the Sinai Withdrawal. During the day quiet prevailed in the Yamit District after the IDF forcefully removed the Hazar Adar settlers, where some 60 people -- including children -- lived. It was established in the last few months. After removing the settlers, the IDF also removed the buildings and the property from the area.

EVACUATED SETTLERS PLAN RETURN TO YAMIT

TA032019 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] The Hazar Adar settlers, who were evacuated from the Yamit District this morning, this evening began to return to the district. Our correspondents, Shalom Oren and Moti 'Eden report from members of the Stop the Sinai Withdrawal Movement, that all the evacuees will return and reestablish the settlements. Four of them are still under detention by the police. IDF soldiers have closed the breaks in the fence through which opponents of the withdrawal penetrated over the last few nights. The soldiers are patrolling the Yamit District to capture infiltrators.

IDF EVACUATES TALME-YOSEF IN YAMIT DISTRICT

TA040546 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Any minute now the IDF will begin evacuating settlers from Moshav Talme-Yosef in the Yamit District, after the settlers announced they would not leave willingly. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that IDF troops are surrounding the settlement, and their commanders have allowed the settlers a respite to conclude their morning prayers.

Members of the Stop the Withdrawal Movement have also arrived at the moshav, but there have been no clashes with the army. Last night settlers blocked a side road leading to the highway to Yamit in order to disturb the army's evacuation of opponents of the withdrawal.

POLL SHOWS SUPPORT FOR YAMIT EVACUATION

TA030953 Jerusalem POST in English 3 Mar 82 p 3

[Report on Jerusalem POST poll by Mark Segal]

[Text] Tel Aviv -- Israelis are resigned to, rather than enthusiastic about, the withdrawal form Sinai, according to the Jerusalem POST poll on the evacuation.

To the question: "Are you for or against evacuating the Yamit region in April?" 59.3 percent of the 1,233 persons polled said, "yes," 37 percent said, "nc," and 3.7 percent were undecided.

Dr Sara Shemer, of the Modi'in Ezrahi Institute which conducted the poll in the third week of February, pointed to a slight increase in opposition to the evacuation since the last poll on the subject in January. Half of the 6.7 percent who had been undecided in the last poll switched to opposition to the evacuation in February.

A belief in peace was the reason given by 59.5 percent of those supporting the withdrawal; 29.5 percent of withdrawal supporters gave the need to honour commitments as their reason; 0.5 percent of this group cited "American pressure;" similar numbers in the group said that withdrawal would ensure U.S. support for Israel should Egypt break the peace treaty, and that the area has no strategic significance.

Among those opposed to withdrawal, security considerations were stressed by 19.1 percent, while 30.7 percent said that they believed settlements should never be uprooted;" 25.9 percent do not believe that Egypt will honour the peace treaty.

Opposition to the withdrawal comes mainly from women, from those in the 18-29 year old group, those with only partial secondary education, the religious, and Likud and Tehiya voters. Favouring the withdrawal are the better educated, those in the upper social strata and labour voters.

Asked what they thought Egypt would do after the withdrawal, 47.9 percent believed that Egypt would honour its commitments; 13.1 percent thought Egypt would cancel normalization, but not threaten Israel; 20.5 percent said Egypt would make any further progress in the peace process conditional on additional Israeli concessions. A threat of war by Egypt was seen as likely by 6.1 percent.

But whatever their views on the desirability of the withdrawal, 75.5 percent of all those polled said there was no chance of preventing it.

IDF DENIES REPORTED OVERFLIGHTS IN LEBANON

TA040624 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] The Israeli Army spokesman has denied reports that Israeli military helicopters flew over Sidon and other parts of southern Lebanon yesterday. The report was carried by the PLO terrorist news agency.

PUBLIC SERVICES RESUME IN DRUZE VILLAGES

TA040549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Essential public services of the local councils were resumed in Druze villages on the Golan Heights, reports our correspondent Yo'el Dar. All the four local councils have been opened, but one local council chairman did not report to his office. Also, a number of businessmen in Majdal Shams took it upon themselves to disobey orders of the strikers and opened their businesses yesterday. At the village of Buqata two teachers reported to work and enabled two schools to be opened. Bank branches did a lively business yesterday, with clients coming to draw last month's wages.

OAU'S MOGWE SAYS SDAR ADMISSION 'STILL STANDS'

AB021642 Paris AFP in English 1632 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Nairobi, 2 March (AFP) -- Chairman of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) council of ministers Archie Mogwe today said last week's ministerial council meeting decision to admit the disputed Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR) as a member of the OAU still stands.

Speaking on his arrival at Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport accompanied by OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo, Mr Mogwe, of Botswana, defended the decision taken to admit the state declared by the guerrilla Polisario Front in Western Sahara.

The move at the meeting in Addis Ababa presided by Mr Mogwe sparked a protest walkout by 19 OAU member states.

Mr Mogwe said the admission of the SDAR as the OAU's 51st member could not jeopardise an OAU summit decision in Nairobi last June for a cease-fire in Polisario's war with Morocco which claims the Western Sahara and a referendum to decide the future of the former Spanish colony.

"I think the very fact that there are people who have walked out in protest is an indication and gives a much stronger reason why there should be a referendum to convince them that it is a state in case they had any doubts about it. So it strengthens the peace efforts," he said.

SAHARAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPEECH TO OAU

PM021531 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 25 Feb 82 p 4

[APS "special envoy" dispatch]

[Excerpt] Addis Ababa -- The third day of the 38th OAU council of ministers session was marked yesterday by a speech made by Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] Foreign Minister Hakim Ibrahim. Some countries -- a small number -- decided not to attend the session. In his first speech to the council of ministers Mr Hakim Ibrahim issued a solemn appeal to the Moroccan Government "to open negotiations with us with a view" he said "to establishing peace in our region thus opening up a new era of cooperation, mutual respect and good-neighborly relations."

"Peace is our objective, we take you as our witnesses," the Saharan foreign minister exclaimed after expressing his "emotion, pride and joy at this historic moment in the Saharan people's struggle."

"I am deeply convinced," Ibrahim added, "that emotion, pride and joy are shared by the honorable representatives of the other peoples on our continent, since the struggle being waged by the Saharan people symbolizes the continuity of our dear continent's liberation struggle."

Recalling the conditions of the struggle against Spanish colonialism and, well before that, against other European invasions and then against Moroccan expansionism with the complicity of the Mauritanian regime of the time, the Saharan foreign minister reviewed the invasion of the Saharan territory in 1975: "That operation," Mr Ibrahim stressed, "was carried out in violation of two sacred principles very dear to Africa: the right of peoples to determine their own future and the inviolability of the borders inherited from the colonial period."

After condemning Moroccan territorial claims, Ibrahim spoke of "destabilization turned into a state policy by Morocco," adding that "Moroccan expansionism is now seeking the means to attain its ambitions by U.S. military intervention.

"While an African people are struggling for their right to self-determination and independence in keeping with UN resolution 1514 and with the cardinal principles of the OAU, United Nations, and nonaligned movement, the United States," the Saharan minister pointed out, "is embarking on a military intervention against it with the aim of encouraging Moroccan expansionism and hence opposing the will of Africa and the international community."

In Ibrahim's view, "by acting in that way, the United States is assuming the grave and heavy responsibility of inflaming the continent's northwest region and internationalizing the war, with all the consequences that would have for the African continent."

"It must be realized," he pointed out, "that no force in the world can destroy the Saharan people's will or determination to fully liberate their country."

After pointing out, in that connection, the Moroccan Army's numerous defeats thanks to the Saharan people's ability to resist, Ibrahim stressed that the "failure of Spanish colonialism, of the military allianceborn of the so-called Madrid agreement and the rout of the expansionist army and the interventions by Jaguar aircraft, show the futility of attempts to oppose our people's will to preserve their independence and their territorial integrity. By proclaiming their independence on 27 February 1976, the Saharan foreign minister pointed out, "the Saharan people performed an act of sovereignty implementing their inalienable right to self-determination and independence."

Ibrahim then discussed the role played by the Saharan state institutions "despite the war imposed on us," before expressing his conviction that "only the policy of good-neighborly relations and mutual respect among states and nations can guarantee the peace and stability to which our peoples aspire."

Referring to the principles in the OAU and UN Charters and the SDAR's attachment to those principles, the Saharan foreign minister asked "whether those noble objectives (laid down in the charters) can be attained while peoples are still subjected to colonialism, expansionism and apartheid," as is the case in Namibia, South Africa, Palestine and elsewhere in the world "where our brothers," Ibrahim continued, "are still suffering occupation and the odious system which negates the human being."

But -- judging from the position adopted in Addis Ababa by the Moroccan delegation -- refusal and intransigence are still the key elements in an attitude which continues to irritate the majority of African delegations. After leaving the hall, the Moroccan delegation engaged in intensive behind the scenes efforts which were in vain since the council of ministers met in the most normal way, adopting its agenda yesterday morning and dividing the various points between the two "A" and "B" committees.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI: TO HELL WITH U.S., SAUDI ARABIA

LD021808 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1455 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Speech by Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at Tripoli's international conference center during 2 March rally celebrating fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah -- live or recorded]

[Text] Free brothers, there is no greater day for the masses than the day they achieve emancipation and liberation and assume reponsibility for their own destinies. There is no greater anniversary for the Libyan masses than that which we are celebrating today -- the anniversary of the proclamation of the jamahiriyah and the establishment of the people's authority. [chants]

This is the anniversary of the day, brothers, on which the Libyan people became masters and free men in their own land. It is your right, brothers, to raise high your voices and your heads because you are the only people who are masters in their own land. You are the only free people. [chants]

Brothers, your voices here tell the shackled millions in the greater Arab homeland that it is possible for people to exist without a government and to run their own affairs by themselves in a jamahiri manner, without any proxy or mediation.

Your voices today, brothers, echo and resound throughout the greater Arab homeland from the ocean to the Gulf, declaring the establishment of the jamahiriyah and the era of the peoples, declaring the triumph of the popular will over a part of the Arab homeland -- indeed, in the heart of the Arab homeland, which Libya represents. Libya is the heart of the Arab homeland. The Libyan people are the pulsating heart of the Arab homeland.

Brothers, the establishment of the jamahiriyah and of the people's authority constitutes one of the most important changes in modern times. For the first time, the masses have liberated themselves from those who shackled them. The masses have liberated themselves from all shackles.

As we celebrate the fifth anniversary of the establishment of the people's authority and the founding of the jamahiriyah today [words indistinct].

This free land used to suffer under the weight of foreign bases built on it. Until recently, the people were forced to bow their heads before reactionary dictatorship, its whips and swords which hung over the necks of the masses.

Brothers, a government's actions against the masses which march to seize authority are acts of injustice and are wrong and illegitimate. The laws promulgated by Arab governments against the Arab peoples to subdue the masses to their authority are unjust laws. They constitute injustice in the full sense of the word. The prisons in which the masses are crammed on the orders of governments must be destroyed by the masses, just as the masses destroyed them on the great 1 September.

Brothers, the laws with which the Arab governments arm themselves against the masses with a view to subduing them [words indistinct].

Brothers throughout the Arab homeland: These days a flagrant challenge to the popular masses exists. Brothers, under the umbrella of the U.S. and Israeli march against the Arab nation, the Arab reaction has been behaving like a lion toward the masses and has been confronting them everywhere in an insolent and clear challenge. These reactionary dictatorial regimes are the agents of imperialism and Zionism in the Arab homeland.

Brothers, the progressive revolutionary forces in the Arab homeland are facing challenges and provocations from the reactionary forces, which have begun to feel like a lion and to raise their voices under the umbrella of the United States and the Israeli forces' march against the Arab nation.

But, brothers, we declare from here the rise of the voice of challenge to the Arab reactionary regimes, the agents of imperialism. We challenge the Arab reactionary regimes and regionalism and those who persecute our Arab masses, the Palestinian masses, the Lebanese masses and the Arab masses everywhere. [chants]

Brothers, today we declare -- on this historic day in the life of the Libyan people -- that we challenge the reactionary and (?regionalist) regimes shackling our Arab masses and preventing them from achieving liberation, deliverance and from taking part in the battle of dignity and fate against the Zionist enemy and against America, the biggest enemy of the Arab nation and the peoples struggling for freedom.

We declare our defiance, brothers! We declare our strong defiance against the reactionary, police, regionalist, corrupt regimes. And from here, brothers, we declare in a loud, fearless voice, in a loud voice that fears no one, we declare our complete backing with all our capabilities for the Arab revolutionary forces now being savagedly treated everywhere. Brothers, we declare our complete backing with all our potential for the revolutionary Arab forces facing savage treatment from the ocean to the Gulf.

Brothers, reaction, which collaborates with Zionism and imperialism and which is an agent of imperialism, wants to liquidate the revolutionary forces, the progressive forces, the unionist forces, so that the Zionist and American forces can attain complete control over the Arab homeland. Brothers, we are now fighting in self-defense, in defense of Arab existence, of Arab dignity, of the Arab land on which the American armies are advancing everywhere without resistance; from our east and from our west the American forces are advancing on the chaste Arab land without any resistance, brothers. But we will declare the resistance and declare the mobilization of the masses of the Arab nation; and we are with them; we are behind them. We will fight along side all free men. You Arab revolutionaries, from the ocean to the Gulf, we will not abandon you, you revolutionaries now suffering in jails and being chased in the streets. They are trying to liquidate the hopes you embody, the hopes of this nation to secure unity, to liberate itself, to build socialism and progress and to hold aloft the banner of honor and dignity, oh brothers!

Brothers, these days, Arab reaction expresses an historical concept hostile to the masses and forever and fatefully allied to colonialism and Zionism. Today, Saudi Arabia, on U.S. orders, declares on you a war of starvation and an economic war against the Libyan people, the Algerian people, the Kuwaiti people and [words indistinct]. Today, Arab reaction expresses its true identity and is totally biased in a flagrant challenge to the Arab nation. It is biased in favor of America and the Israeli brothers. Saudi Arabia, implementing U.S. orders, has decided to deprive the Libyan people of their sole source of income: oil. Saudi Arabia, dear brothers, unnecessarily, needlessly and without any national economic justification is flooding the world market with cheap oil and is selling its oil at cheap prices. Saudi Arabia, brothers, today is declaring its open alliance with Israel and the United States against the Libyan people, against the Algerian people, against the Kuwaiti people, against the Nigerian people and against the peoples who rely on oil. Saudi Arabia decides, in implementing U.S. desires, to flood the markets with cheap oil to sell its oil at rock-bottom prices so as to deprive the Libyan people, the Algerian people and the Kuwaiti people from selling their oil.

These peoples, brothers, the Arab peoples whose lives depend on oil, now face an economic blockade by order of the United States and by its implementation by the Saudi rulers who are flooding the oil market with 7 million barrels a day without fulfilling any economic need for Saudi Arabia but for the purpose of preventing Libya, the Algerian people and the Kuwaiti people from selling their oil so as to submit Kuwait to the will of Saudi Arabia and so as to submit the Gulf and place it under the Saudi boot. The United States wants the Libyan people to submit to Arab reaction or to the will of the United States: but to hell with the United States, to hell with Arab reaction. We will not submit. We will not submit, brothers.

Brothers, today you are facing an open challenge by the United States and Arab reaction, the base and servile agent of the United States. You, the Arab peoples who rely on oil -- the people of the Gulf and the Algerian people -- face the same challenge. Brothers, you are facing a challenge to your will.

The United States wants to prevent the Libyan people from selling their oil to deprive them of cash and consequently to make the Libyan people incapable of arming the Palestinian resistance and of building economic might on their territory -- to prevent the Libyan people from eradicating backwardness. The United States, brothers, has come to realize that what is taking place on the Arab land is serious in the full sense of the word and that what is taking place on the Arab land is the planting of freedom which will remain forever since it is freedom built on the authority of the masses and on true socialism, justice and equality. The United States has come to realize that the Libyan people are heading full tilt toward consolidating their freedom morally and materially through the building of industry, through conquering the desert and through building military power and converting hundreds of thousands of people into an army, into an armed people.

The United States, brothers, and its foster child Israel and its servile agent, Arab reaction, have come to realize that there is a real danger to the interests of colonialism from Libya and that there is true liberation of the Arab man and true realization of his [words indistinct] the Libyan land.

The fervor of the jamahiriyah, of the authority of the masses and of socialism and of the armed people will (?spread) throughout the Arab territory. If the Arab people become armed; if the Arab people become free; if the Arab people become strong, it will mean the end of the Israelis, the end of the United States and its colonialism, the end of its interests which are realized only at the expense of the interests of the Arab peoples.

Therefore, the United States decided to make war on the jamahiryah, to put an end to the revolution, to put an end to the free people, to put an end to this surge which is the bastion of Arab hopes and to which the Arabs look for the realization of their hopes and which is the voice that speaks loudly for them. All other voices are afraid of the United States and are afraid of Israel -- they are weak and submissive. All voices but the voice of the Libyan people -- it is the strong voice which is unafraid. Therefore, the United States decided to eliminate this voice which annoys colonialism, reaction and Zionism. The United States wants to eliminate the surge which has come to liberate the Arabs.

It has become clear to the United States that the revolution will spread, that the artificial frontiers, regardless of the fact they are printed on maps and charters, cannot prevent the wind of the revolution and the wind of the jamahiriyah, socialism, progress and unity. The gates that are being reinforced everyday in the Arab homeland and the frontiers behind which hide those who fear for their positions -- these frontiers cannot stop the strong wind of the revolution, the wind of the jamahiriyah and the wind of the call for the unity of the Arab nation and the wind of resisting imperialism, Zionism and backwardness. [applause]

For this reason brothers, America has decided to make the revolution in Libya, the freedom of the Libyan people, the wealth of the Libyan people, the oil of the Libyan people, the farms of the Libyans, the interests of the Libyans, the first target, and perhaps its sole target in this stage. With the advent of this U.S. administration, America, brothers, decided to make you its target. America now regards Libya as the prime strategic target to overcome.

To undertake the holy war, brothers, we must prepare more than one million citizens, men and women. We must prepare them militarily to confront America, to confront the agents of America.

Brothers, we must militarily train more than one million citizens, men and women. Brothers, we must decide to triumph over America, to vanquish the agents of America. We are on our soil; we defend our existence, our dignity, no, the dignity of [words indistinct] brothers. Brothers, we are, with our right, stronger than America, stronger than America's agents. Brothers, we must prepare more than one million, more than one million citizens, men and women.

We have to prepare over one million men and women to fight with tanks, artillery, missiles, machineguns and aircraft, not as a militia or civil or local defense forces, but as fighters capable of using the most modern military hardware.

The United States is our enemy. Whatever air or sea bridges it might build between its military bases in Europe or its new Arab colonies in the Arab Maghreb and Arab Mashriq -- in Egypt, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Somalia and the donkey pen Oman -- the United States can never defeat an armed people. It cannot route one million soldiers. If we mobilize one million soldiers, we make sure that we will defeat the United States or force the United States to [words indistinct] or resort to atom bombs. [chants]

Brothers, the United States has no force capable of occupying the Libyan territory or crushing the resistance of the Libyan people. The atom power [words indistinct] the United States will inevitably be defeated just as it was defeated in Vietnam.

Brothers, inevitably, the United States will be defeated by the Libyan men and women, just as it was defeated in Vietnam, or it will have to resort to its atomic power. The United States will be faced with one of two options: either accept defeat at the hands of the Libyan people -- if we prepare one million Libyans to fight it -- or be forced into using atomic bombs. Even if we force the United States to resort to its strategic atomic weapons, we would be considered to have triumphed over the United States. This will mean a third world war. This will mean the end of the world. Thus our slogan will be: on my head and on my enemies' heads.

If the United States doesn't resort to atomic bombs, then whatever forces it prepares in the air and in the sea, it will never be able to send one million American soldiers to Libya. But, we brothers, have decided whatever the circumstances, to die with raised heads. This is, brothers, because we are fighting for our right to live and for our place on earth and under the sun. [chants]

We have been patient with Saudi Arabia and asked for a dialogue with Saudi Arabia. We had agreed on the resumption of relations with Saudi Arabia. We have used every cordial and fraternal means with Saudi Arabia. We contacted Kuwait, Algeria and the Gulf. We contacted every intermediary. We made all efforts. Brothers, we have been patient for a long time with the policies of Saudi Arabia which is starving its people and the oil-producing Arab peoples. We have tried with Saudi Arabia. We gave it enough time. But now, brothers, enough is enough. We now declare that we have had enough with the policies of Saudi Arabia, which are pro-American and which finance Israel. It is an ally with the enemy of the Arab nation. Saudi Arabia is the number one enemy of Islam; Saudi Arabia is the number one enemy of the Arab nation.

Yes brothers, we have reached our tether with the policies of Saudi Arabia. It has starved our people. It seeks, brothers, to deprive you of your property, of your [words indistinct], brothers. Saudi Arabia, brothers, is the number one enemy as far as our people are concerned. It is starving (?one) people. [chants] [Words indistinct] thus carrying out America's orders. [Words indistinct] but this is for the interest of America, for the interest of Israel. [chants]

Brothers, [words indistinct] America. We have been patient for a long time. Every day, it creates lies and makes accusations and appoints itself a guardian for Libya. [Words indistinct] it appoints itself as a judge and policeman of the world. We say to it: Get stuffed [tuzz]! America is no gendarme of the world. America isn't our guardian. We defy America. We have decided to die and America cannot [words indistinct] from death. We have decided to die while spitting at the filthy face of America. We, brothers, do not fear the American [word indistinct]. We do not fear the 10th crusade launched by America toward Libyan shores.

Today we declare that maneuvers are taking place on our western borders and in our territorial waters. The American 6th Fleet provokes us, challenges us, intimidates us, but we are not intimidated by filthy America.

We are working for the liberation of the world. We are against America. We are not alone, brothers. All peoples struggling for freedom are with us. We have with us all the peoples who consider America their number one enemy. We, brothers, find America isolated in the UN General Assembly. We find the great satan on trial and we [words indistinct] all the small nations. People love us because we love and struggle for freedom and because we are the builders of the jamahiriyah and the founders of the era of the masses.

Brothers, all the masses are with us. The masses of the Arab nation in the streets are with us. But they are helpless. They cannot cheer; they cannot express their feelings and aspirations. But they are with us from the ocean to the Gulf. We have the masses with us. To hell with Saudi Arabia; to hell with the reactionary rulers of Saudi Arabia. We have [words indistinct] of our policy toward these traitors. The Saudis are the enemies of the Arab peoples. The Saudis are the enemies of the Arab nation. They are the enemies of Islam.

On this day, brothers, the free masses should declare their alliance with the Iranian people who are fighting the tyrants and are crushing reaction and America. Let us, brothers, add our voice to that of the Iranian revolution. Let us ally ourselves with it against reaction, Zionism and America [words indistinct] and so that the popular revolution will triumph. [cheers and shouts]

Brothers, we declared that we want to resume relations with Morocco, Saudi Arabia and Iraq. [Words indistinct] America. When the Israelis destroyed the Iraqi nuclear reactor, and we regarded this as an insult to every Arab, when the Israelis destroyed the Iraqi nuclear reactor, we regarded this as a defeat for all Arabs and an insult to all Arabs; we regarded it as a beginning of a new stage of humiliation for the Arabs at the hands of the Israelis and a new stage of aggression on the future of the Arab nation so that it will not enter into the atomic era or the era of progress. We said that we are prepared to forget our differences with Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Morocco and to resume relations with them for the sake of a joint Arab action against the common enemy. Until now, brothers, regrettably none of them has shown an iota of feeling for dignity, the humiliated dignity and the honor which has been tread upon by Zionism. Those traitors have surrendered and taken the enemy's blows in a very shameful manner. None of these Arab states have done anything against Zionism. They have worked to deal blows to the Palestinian resistance and its only support -- the Lebanese National Movement. This takes place while billions of Saudi funds go to factories where U.S. aircraft are being manufactured so that aircraft can be produced for Israel, enabling the latter to strike at the Iraqi nuclear reactor and the Arab nation. Israeli aircraft today is flying over Saudi Arabia with complete disdain for the Saudi rulers. Israel says these flights will not stop (?because they are important to Israel's security).

We have so far, brothers, been unable to undertake any joint action against the common enemy. We are in no need of relations with these reactionary regimes -- the allies of Israel and America, the enemies of the Arab people, these capitulationist and cowardly regimes; we are ashamed to have relations with them. A free state such as Libya -- a revolutionary and progressive state which is anticolonialist, antireaction and anti-Zionism -- is ashamed to have relations with the rotten regimes in the Arab homeland, such as the one in Saudi Arabia. These regimes, brothers, want to enslave us with their oil. The Saudis want to dominate the Arab homeland with oil. To hell with their oil. (?They will not dominate) the Arab homeland. We urge the Saudi people, the Arabian people in [words indstinct].

Brothers [words indistinct] the initiative was the Fahd plan. We are expecting joint Arab action against the common enemy. The Saudis came out with a plan calling on Arabs to recognize Israel. What is the difference between Fahd and the [word indistinct] As-Sadat? What is the difference between them? The Fahd plan is the same as that of As-Sadat.

The joint Arab action which we were expecting in response to this truce is [word indistinct] the Arab revolutionary force. The [words indistinct] in Libya, the Arab revolutionaries. I have met revolutionaries from inside Riyadh; they came here secretly and said: How could you abandon us and how could you enter into a truce with Saudi reaction, the agent of Zionism and colonialism? Revolutionaries from all over the Arab homeland came to me and blamed me, saying: How could you abandon the Arab revolutionary forces and how could you enter into a truce with reaction, which is doomed? Where is the shah of Iran? The fate of the Saudi family will be the same as that of the shah's family. Where is Idris as-Sunusi and the As-Sunusi family? Where are [words indistinct]. Victory is for the peoples, brothers.

We were expecting joint Arab action for the liberation of Palestine in order to repel aggression and to [word indistinct] wounded Baghdad. We, brothers, were expecting Arab initiatives that would deter aggression, but we were surprised by Fahd's plan which asks us to recognize the enemy. We declare that we -- I personally will not attend a summit unless it is a summit which discusses the liberation of Palestine and the unifying of the Arab nation and the establishment of Arab economic unity and [word indistinct]. This is the summit I will attend; as for Fahd's plan: it is in the garbage can. [chants and applause]

Brothers, today, we are facing a challenge, a real challenge. Either we submit to America's will and be obedient to its wishes and bow our heads before America and declare that America is our master and that it is providence, and recognize Israel and (?throw) the poisonous dagger into the heart of the Arab homeland and recognize [words indistinct] and open our territory to the Israelis so that they can advance eastward and westward, or we declare our rejection of America and affirm (?that it is not God); and we declare that America is not providence and declare that Palestine (?is ours) and that (?we will not concede an inch of) the soil of Palestine; and we declare that the solution lies in the Arab (?march), the Arab economic, political and military [word indistinct]; and brothers, we declare that [words indistinct] that we are claimants to a right over our own soil; and that we declare that we Arabs have a place in the sun and on earth, which we should be (?worthy) of occupying and of living in with dignity and honor. It is our right to resist any aggressors against Arab territory because this affects our existence and our honor. We should declare our alliance with the international revolutionary forces which [words indistinct] change the sick, bitter and painful reality. We have to choose one or the other.

Brothers, the cowards and scum who have no dignity accept an alliance with colonialism and agree to bow their heads to America. There is a (?number) even in this country who declared that their homeland (?is no more than a provider of food) and that they have no dignity and that they are stray dogs who prefer to eat at the tables of the United States and Saudi Arabia. Those Libyans who have been cast out by the Libyan people, who have forgotten about the blood of the workers and peasants and choose to live in comfort, like princes in luxury at the expense of the poverty of the Libyan people and the dignity of the Libyan people, are the ones now dining and supping on the leftovers of the tables of Saudi Arabia and Morocco and Egypt and are trading with the Israelis and with [word indistinct]. These people have no dignity or value. They are filthy. I say these people are without dignity. Their stomaches are their dignities. Their stomaches are their homeland. They have no race or religion. They have joined the hostile camp.

These descriptions apply to every Libyan abroad. Such Libyans live like stray dogs in Europe and the United States. But, we brothers, are people determined to live freely even without oil. [words indistinct]

Brothers, we are people who, should it become necessary, will decide to live as our forefathers lived. They fought against Italy without oil. Italy has gone but the Libyans remain free. This is a testimony to our glories and to our shouldering of our duties. They fought without oil and refused to bow their heads.

We are people who, if we so wish, can make ourselves worthy of living. We are people who want to inscribe glorious pages in the annals of history, for ourselves and for our future generations as well as for their Arab nation and for the entire Islamic east. Our people must decide to live without oil and stand boldly and valiantly in the face of the 10th crusade represented by the American 6th Fleet and the new crusades led by the United States. We must boycott reaction and declare a revolution against it. We must ally ourselves with the masses for they are the true Arab revolutionary force which will inherit the earth and write history.

Brothers, the United States, by order of the U.S. President, who is sacrificing U.S. interests for the sake of his personal interests, this selfish President who has placed his personal considerations above any other considerations and who is daily destroying U.S. interests everywhere and who is breeding hostility every month and every year for the sake of his personal interests and his selfishness and [word indistinct]; this fascist U.S. President who is hostile to the peoples, who has an inferiority complex and wants to make up for it through far-fetched stories and adventures which will lead the world to destruction; who orders U.S. companies to get out of Libya -- I want to say, brothers, that we used to feel ashamed of the fact that a single U.S. company existed on Libyan territory, since it was inconsistent with the revolution that a company of a [word indistinct] country such as America was on Libyan territory. The U.S. companies were a mark of disgrace on our forehead. It was shameful to us. Today, we are neither sad nor distrubed as this [word indistinct] believes. When he withdraws his companies, he believes that we will be disturbed and will tremble and fear for our future. We say we welcome your decision to withdraw your companies as your companies are (?filthy) and monopolistic and [word indistinct]; there is no room for any American company on the free Libyan land.

Let these companies go to Saudi Arabia, let them go to Morocco, let them go to Jordan, let them go to Somalia and Sudan or to the donkey's pen. These are the proper places for them, where the agents are, where the submissive, the cowards, the reactionaries and the backward are. Let these companies go to hell.

The Libyan people, brothers, must decide. If the matter is one of defiance, we must face up to defiance with defiance. If America challenges us [word indistinct] then we defy it because we will never submit; we will never surrender. [applause] We, brothers, are stronger than defiance. We face up to a challenge with a challenge. We face up to provocation with [words indistinct]. Brothers, we have friends and allies and [words indistinct] on earth and in the sun.

Brothers, we are capable of changing the norms. We are capable of turning the tables on them. We are capable of creating grave changes in this region. We are capable of allying ourselves even with the devil -- not to mention the fact that we have friends. Honorable ones, enemies of imperialism. We can elevate the level of our friendship with them to the highest level in confronting America. And America will lose because it has turned all the peace-loving peoples, the freedom-loving peoples, into its enemies.

America wants to put the world under its foot. We say to America: You are now fully playing the Nazi role. Nazism turned Europe into a zone of vital interest for Germany. America wants to turn the whole world into a zone of vital interest for America. What happened to fascism and Nazism, that dreadful force that used to make the earch tremble? The armies of the axis, where Nazism was the ally of fascism; where are they now? Their fate has been destruction, obliteration. The fascist empires were destroyed, brothers, and the people triumphed. Fascism and Nazism have been (?eliminated). Hitler, brothers, used to believe that the peoples of East Europe would fall under the feet of his armies like autumn leaves. He used to believe that he would conquer Russia and set up a world empire. He committed this foolish historic act. And in the end, Hitler was eliminated and Nazism was eliminated and the people in East Europe triumphed.

They now enjoy socialism, progress and freedom. [words indistinct] Nazism. The current U.S. President is [word indistinct] Hitler and Mussolini. He is reviving [word indistinct] facism in the world. He suffers from arrogance and powermania. He believes America a transform the whole world into slaves. Hitler at one time imagined that he could transform the whole world into slaves. The facist U.S. President believes that the whole world and especially the Arab land is within the U.S. sphere of influence. But there are some who tell him: You will see in the future that your empire will be defeated and will fail as facism and Nazism were defeated.

The peoples will triumph, brothers. Today we are with the world and with the people who are stronger than America: Ally yourselves with the Arab masses, brothers. The Arab land is not a farm belonging to America; it is not a farm belonging to the Saudis; it is not a farm belonging to the reactionaries. God is great, brothers. [words indistinct] let us live [words indistinct]. Victory is from God: Forward victory is for us, forward until we achieve unity and until we defeat Israel and America, until we raise the banners of freedom and of socialism.

PEOPLE'S CONGRESS ELECTS NEW SECRETARIES

LD031840 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1701 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Decision adopted by General People's Congress meeting at Tripoli center of ideological orientation; read by secretary of the congress proceedings -- live]

[Text] In the name of God. Proceeding from the historic declaration on the establishment of the people's authority and to cement direct democracy, the general meeting of people's conferences, people's committees, trade unions, associations and professional organizations -- the General People's Congress -- decided at its emergency meeting on 3 March 1982 to elect the secretaries of the General People's Committee at the level of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

By virtue of this decision, the General People's Committee has been formed as follows.

Secretary of General People's Committee	Jadallah 'Aziz at-Talhi
Secretary of General People's Committee for the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison	'Abd al-Ati al-'Ubaydi
Secretary of General People's Committee for Justice	Muhammad Abu al-Qasim Az-Zuwayy
Secretary of General People's Committee for Atomic Energy	'Abd al-Majid al-Qu'ud
Secretary of General People's Committee for Housing	Muhammad al-Manqush
Secretary of General People's Committee for Electricity	Jum'ah al-Arbash
Secretary of General People's Committee for Agrarian Reform and Land Reclamation	Abu Zayd 'Umar Durdah
Secretary of General People's Committee for Economy and Light Industries	Musa Abu Furaywah
Secretary of General People's Committee for Heavy Industry	'Umar al-Mintasir
Secretary of General People's Committee for Public Service	Muhammad 'Abdallah al-Mabruk
Secretary of General People's Committee for Social Security	Ibrahim al-Faqih Hasan
Secretary of General People's Committee for Education	Dr 'Abd al-Hafiz as-Zulaytini
Secretary of General People's Committee for Communications and Maritime Transport	Eng al-Bukhari Salim Hudah
Secretary of General People's Committee for Health	Dr Murad Langi
Secretary of General People's Committee for the Treasure	Muhammad Qasim Sharlala
Secretary of General People's Committee for Petroleum	Kamil Hasan Al-Maqhur
Secretary of General People's Committee for Planning	Fawzi al-Shakshuki
Secretary of General People's Committee for Utilities	Eng Muhammad 'Ubayd ash-Shukri
Secretary of General People's Committee for Sport	Ibrahim Khuwaydir

ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON AL-QADHDHAFI DENIED

LD021904 Tripoli JANA in English 1753 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Mar (JANA) -- The French news agency circulated allegations published by the "Washington POST" newspaper which is notorious for its links with the CIA. These claimed that U.S. intelligence services have substantial evidence to prove that there had been an assassination attempt on the life of the leader of the revolution.

The French news agency is known to publish such allegations as is the case with all imperialist news agencies. Yet every one knows that such allegations [words indistinct] of the unjust hostile campaign against Libya and is therefore condemnable. Reagan's administration persists in [word indistinct] such campaigns to back its sabotage activites and show its hostile stands against the Libyan Arab people.

Life and death are inevitable and death could come at any time. Lying however is strongly condemned and it seems that it has become the distinctive character of Reagan's administration policies. It takes [words indistinct] the hostile U.S. stands against Libyan people and is at the same time part of the new crusade war directed against the entire Arab nation.

SPA DISTORTS TUNISIAN COMMENTS ON UNITY

LD021934 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1720 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 2 Mar (SPA) -- SPA has distorted the statements made yesterday by Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali at a press conference in Riyadh in connection with a merger-type unity. It quoted him as saying that an immediate merger-type unity is sheer fantasy and a mirage. This deliberate distortion is a result of Saudi Arabia's jealousy over the strengthening of any relations linking neighbors.

We are naturally of the opinion that no one has the right to stand in the way of Arab unity and to claim that this unity is a mirage. Unity is a feasible thing... it is not a mirage as some imagine.

We regret that SPA has resorted to Israeli and American logic in speaking about Arab unity. Such distortion does not serve the Arab cause nor does it serve the cause of Islam. At any rate, why should there be any talk about such an incorrect interpretation of Arab unity as that formulated by a mentality that rejects logic, avoids reality and entrenches regionalism?

Those who have deliberately distorted the statements of an Arab official loyal to the interests of his country and his Arab nation will have to pay the price of this abuse.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY

NC280735 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 28 Feb 82

[Text] The brother leader yesterday received at his residence at As-Sa'adah Palace in Al-Marsa [Tunisia] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. Brother Klibi said his discussions with the brother leader focused on bolstering joint Arab action in all fields.

The Arab League secretary general expressed his satisfaction with the development of relations between the jamahiriyah and Tunisia. He said this development is an example that should be followed by all Arab states. Brother Klibi added he found that the brother leader of the revolution is positively disposed and ready to support joint Arab action to serve the aims and issues of the Arab nation.

AL-QADHDHAFI, HAYDALA EXCHANGE MESSAGES

LD011932 Tripoli JANA in English 1716 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Mar (JANA) -- Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi leader of Al-Fateh Revolution, has received a message from Lt. Colonel Mohammad Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation in Mauritania.

This message is in reply to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's letter on the strategic alliance between Israel and the U.S.A. and the need to counter this hostile alliance. Lt. Colonel Haydala has told Colonel al-Qadhdhafi that he welcomes a meeting for the African progressive forces to diffuse the dangers of this alliance.

'VIOLENT STUDENT UPRISING' CONTINUES IN SUDAN

NC270950 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Feb 82

[Text] The violent student uprising against stooge Numayri's regime is continuing in Khartoum and the Wad Madani governorate despite the campaign of suppression carried out by the regime's forces against the students.

Reports reaching Athens yesterday said students in all Sudanese schools reopened by the regime because of the pending examinations are continuing their demonstrations against the regime, particularly in Wad Madani governorate and Khartoum.

The students have distributed leaflets calling for the toppling of Numayri and his regime and appealing to the people to participate openly in the uprising in Khartoum's streets as well as in Omdurman and Wad Madani.

People arriving in Athens from Khartoum said the regime has failed to contain the student's demonstrations and that the security forces have refused to open fire against the students because they do not want to repeat last month's tragedy during which many students were killed or wounded by soldiers who were their relatives.

CSSR ENGINEERING MINISTER DEPARTS 28 FEB

LD282126 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 28 Feb 82

[Text] Tripoli, 28 Feb (JANA) -- The Czechoslovak minister of general engineering, Pavol Bahyi, and his delegation left Tripoli this evening. In a statement to JANA, Bahyl paid tribute to the achievements and changes made by the Libyan Arab people in various fields thanks to the al-Fatih revolution. He also paid tribute to the outcome of the talks on the promotion of relations between the jamahiriyah and Czechoslovakia.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN COMMENTS ON SAHARAN QUESTION

LD031452 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Speech from the throne by King Hassan II on his accession anniversary -- live]

[Excerpts] Praise be to God, the blessing of God and peace be on our master, the prophet of God, his family and companions. Dear people, for several days, you have made preparations to celebrate this day, the anniversary of our accession to the throne of our sacred ancestors. These celebrations, prepared by you with great pride and great joy and for which you now proceed in great pride and continuous happiness, indicate the strong ties between you and us. They also show that you adhere to the extremely lofty importance of your national day.

Dear people, Morocco last year had the honor of hosting the 12th Arab League summit. The understanding we met among all enabled us once more to evaluate the great wisdom characterizing the debates of most of our brothers, the Arab heads of state. It also enabled us to evaluate their farsightedness, their determination to serve our sacred cause, far removed from any selfish, biased consideration.

The problem of the Sahara remains our greatest fundamental concern. The fate of the population of our southern territories is, of course, the focus of our continuous concern. There is no room for neglect and all measures are taken to secure a dignified and respected life for this population.

In the military sphere, our armed forces are daily becoming stronger and more organized. The dual role assumed by our forces is worthy of all praise. They contribute successfully to the restructuring of our Saharan provinces and ensure for our subjects in these provinces the conditions of a quiet life, similar to life in the other provinces of our kingdom.

Furthermore, these forces are confronting in a rare manner, with courage, self-denial and spirit of sacrifice, the attempts made by the mercenaries to infiltrate our territories. In this respect, it may be said that our domination in the field now, thanks to these forces, is absolute domination, and our provinces in the Sahara are secure from any significant danger.

Regarding international organizations, we were keen to go personally on two successive occasions to Nairobi, capital of Kenya, where the OAU held meetings. Then the ordinary session of the OAU council of ministers recently was held in Addis Ababa, reserved usually for administrative and budget matters. We were greatly surprised when we learned that following a forgery perpetrated by the OAU Administrative Secretariat the mercenaries were allowed to take part in the work of the above mentioned council. We took the initiative then to contact the current OAU chairman, His Excellency President arap Moi, and the African heads of state to express our anger and denunciation and to deplore this rash, irresponsible action taken by the OAU Secretariat.

Convinced that all the wise men of Africa share our views, we say and declare frankly that if this bias is not rapidly corrected and if legality and legitimacy are not quickly restored to their previous state, then we will be on the brink of splitting the OAU. This warning deserves to be taken seriously because the interest of our continent clearly rests in its unity and harmony and not in its disintegration.

As for us in Morocco, king and people, we are determined to ceaselessly defend our rights. And there is nothing likely to make us abandon our commitments in connection with a cease-fire and a referendum in the Sahara.

PRIME MINISTER BOUABID DESCRIBES VISIT TO PRC

LD021540 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Rabat, 1 Mar [as received] (MAP) -- Mr Maati Bouabid, Moroccan premier and the delegation accompanying him arrived here Monday after a weeklong visit to China.

Upon arrival, Mr Bouabid pointed out that during his visit to China at the invitation of the Chinese premier, he held talks with Chinese officials on issues of common interest and means and ways to consolidate Moroccan-Chinese cooperation in various fields. This visit, said the Moroccan premier, was the opportunity to explain to Chinese authorities the policy incepted by King Hassan II of Morocco in Nairobi.

Mr Bouabid added that Chinese officials lauded the courageous stances adopted by the Moroccan sovereign regarding the Palestinian issue, Arab questions in general and within international organizations especially, within the United Nations organization for the reintegration of China. [sentence as received]

The Moroccan premier concluded saying that his visit climaxed with the slogans of a bilateral agreement in the technical and cultural fields.

It is to be recalled that the Moroccan premier was accompanied during his visit to China by Mr Abbas El Fassi, minister of handicraft and social affairs, Mr Mansouri Benali, minister of transports, Mr Mohamed Kabbaj, minister of equipment and Mr Ahmed Belhaj, minister in charge of relations with the Parliament.

The Moroccan premier was welcomed upon arrival by members of the Moroccan Government led by Mr Mahjoubi Aherdane, minister of state for cooperation, the Chinese ambassador to Rabat and several other personalities.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI DISCUSSES DOMESTIC SITUATION

PM031119 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 27 Feb 82 pp 10, 11

[Interview granted by President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to 'UKAZ Chief Editor Hashim 'Abduh Hashim -- date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] You said during an official meeting that the Sudanese people should elect a substitute for Ja'far Numayri. Does this mean, Mr President, that you have despaired of the possibility of remedying the situation?

[Answer] Actually I did not say this to the conferees but they probably drew this conclusion. On the other hand, the press has presented other views. What I meant was that we have agreed on a constitution and a system of government and have begun to implement them in Sudan. If what the masses want, what the people want, is different from what is stipulated in the constitution, then they may do so -- they may think about having a new president and about electing a new president.

[Question] If such a thing did happen, would you expect to be reelected?

[Answer] What if I am? What I do know is that when we introduce a new constitution and new laws we naturally have to take a second look at all the leaders. We maintain that our leadership is not permanent because ours is a presidential republic with set terms of office. If the people opted for constitutional amendments then naturally one would say to the people: The decision is yours and we are prepared to step down to stop the bleeding.

[Question] But, Mr President, how do you see the domestic situation? I ask because various media reports claim that the situation is not reassuring.

[Answer] Well, by God, some news agencies do this with one particular aim in mind. They want to disseminate more and more bad news about Sudan.

[Question] But why Sudan?

[Answer] Believe me, I do not know. Perhaps they think that they can isolate Sudan. They think that they can destroy Sudan economically. (They think that by doing so they can unite the people at home and abroad against the government or the regime.) [parentheses as published] Some radios address special broadcasts to the Sudanese abroad, calling on them to take up arms. I am not surprised by this and I do not consider it new. Certain states, as we have seen, have tried to do these things and tried to fight the regime from the inside. The people here only laugh at and ridicule such attempts. There have been too many lies. Libyan radio claimed that the resistance is still going on and that 400 of Numayri's guards have died, that the popular forces are bound to triumph and that Numayri does not know where he stands. It is regrettable that some newspapers and magazines believe these things and publish and even exagerate them.

[Question] One published story, Mr President, claims that there are 18,000 detainees in Sudan, and concludes that the situation in Sudan is unstable.

[Answer] My answer is that they are talking about nonexistent things to achieve their objectives. I believe that the regime in Sudan, the calm and stability in Sudan constitute a threat to them. The Libyan and Sudanese revolutions occurred in the same year. In Libya there is unusual subsidization from the oil revenues, but I can say that these tremendous revenues have had two adverse results:

1 -- failure to develop Libya; and 2 -- great success in purchasing extremely sophisticated weapons from the Soviet Union and many European states; but even these weapons, which are kept in stores and camps, have not given Libya a strong army. Regrettably, there are now mercenaries in Libya. They are the ones who use these arms. Brother al-Qadhdhafi is asking the Islamic and African states to send him volunteers. We are one of the states he contacted for this purpose. (We cannot understand it.) [parentheses as published]

[Question] What about the report about detentions?

[Answer] The number of common prisoners is even less than 3,000. We do not have the capacity to detain large numbers of people for any reason. Whereas others have bult new prisons with modern technology, Sudan has practically closed its prisons down. At any rate, if we detain people and interrogate them, we do so democratically, but there are others who detain people, beat them up and shoot them without prior investigation, and then they claim that the war [as published] is over, which is not true.

[Question] Does this mean that you have no political detainees?

[Answer] Indeed. Except for a handful, we have no detainees. Even this handful are not considered detainees but rather people under interrogation.

[Question] But some reports have spoken of a recent detention of officers, claiming that the number of detainees is much higher than you announced?

[Answer] What recently happened was pensioning off, not detention. Only 23 officers have been pensioned off, either because their term of service had expired or because they had reached a certain level of efficiency. Naturally, there are certain limits of efficiency beyond which one cannot go. I can say that they have been given the best retirement terms and the best pension. We here in Sudan have our own special method. We retire officers at a reasonable age so that they are able to do some work in the civil service. If I let an officer out of the army when he is old, no civilian would give him any work. The figure we announced is the right figure. I do not understand all this uproar about a perfectly normal step such as this. Last year, for example, we pensioned off 150 officers. It was done legally and in stages throughout the year.

[Question] Why did the students go on strike?

[Answer] On the question of the student strike, I can tell those who have raised this issue that we are proud of it. We would like to see something like that happen in their countries. Regarding what happened here, the demonstrations were staged by very young people who have their own way of thinking and who are naively exploited.

[Question] Mr President, what about the decision to close down the five universities and the circumstances under which that decision was made?

[Answer] Regrettably, the student strikes have been tendentiously linked by some to what happened in connection with the universities. The truth is that the case of the unversities is a completely different matter. The problem there was between the staff and the students federation. The freshmen classes began 2 weeks later than the other classes. When the vacation came and all other classes went on vacation, the federation decided that the freshmen classes should also have the same vacation. The others protested but the federation insisted on its position. The president of the university refused to give in.

The university board met and decided that the federation's attitude was wrong and that the students should not interfere with the syllabus and teaching schedules. The students stuck to their position, so the university board decided to suspend the federation's Central Committee for 1 year and ruled that the studies should continue and that measures would be taken against those who did not comply.

Some people tried to link this to other matters. They claimed that the strikes were political and that they were the result of the increase in the prices of sugar and so forth. The fact is that the sugar prices were announced 1 month earlier. One wonders, why the strike did not occur then. It was natural that steps to close the universities had to be taken, to prevent the spread of the disease.

[Question] Mr President, is there no point of contact with the opposition?

[Answer] The opposition has no aim. I regretfully say that its only aim is to do something in Sudan to please other states. Whoever gives, wants to see results for his aid. Some people have accumulated wealth this way. The heirs of Ash-Sharif al-Hindi, for example, do not know how to divide his massive wealth after his death.

[Question] Why, Mr President, do you think that foreign states are behind the opposition?

[Answer] When I say foreign states I specifically mean Libya. The Libyan leadership wants always to be seen as the sole Arab leadership. It seeks the same thing in the Islamic world. I sensed Al-Qadhdhafi's objectives the first time I met him. I offered him advice many times, and I told him not to involve himself in such matters.

[Question] What are his objectives?

[Answer] Actually there is only one aim, and that is to subvert the Islamic world. We have definite information. We know all about the camps in Libya. There are elements from more than one Arab state and from a large number of African states. What for? -- for subversion in their own countries.

[Question] What do they stand to gain from that?

[Answer] I really don't know why this is happening. What is more, they are trying to form new Arab communist parties and so-called fronts for the liberation of the Arab states. From what, I wonder. Ask him.

[Question] Mr President, let us go back to the question of the opposition. Why was the agreement between you and the opposition on reform broken?

[Answer] The truth is that I do not believe that there is an opposition as such. There may be some individuals. These individuals want to be at the peak of power, either because of their history in Sudan or because of their great ambitions. There is no agreement between me and any individuals. On the contrary, I have said that anyone willing to work in his own homeland is welcome to do so. The country is open to such people and I have canceled all the legal measures against them, whether they are death or prison sentences or anything else, but they still talk about an agreement. Agreement to do what? Share Sudan with them, or what?

[Question] Mr President, are you prepared to allow the participation of As-Sadiq al-Mahdi and other opposition leaders in the government, especially if there is a possibility of arriving at a common concept of political work in Sudan in the future?

[Answer] What do I own in Sudan that I can invite others to share with me? Sudan consists of people, institutions, the constitution and laws. All these things determine who should participate in national action and, more significantly, what such participation should be like.

Regarding the so-called opposition, I really do not see it, for the simple reason that it operates abroad. This is why the chances of its participation are nil because it is impossible for one to participate within from without, and people at home cannot elect people living abroad. Furthermore, those who have lived abroad for many years will need a long time after their return, not to participate, but to absorb the new realities in Sudan.

Most of those people left Sudan when there was civil war between the south and the north. That war lasted 17 years, but now there is peace in the south and there is a regional government and a legislative council in the south, and we have a national army consisting of our sons from the north and the south. Most of those people whom you call the opposition left Sudan when it was centrally governed from Khartoum. Now Sudan has six regional governments, six regional legislative councils and a system of government that will take them a long time to understand, let alone participate in.

[Question] Why shouldn't they be given the opportunity to actually participate in order to test their intentions and see whether this view is right or wrong?

[Answer] This is a vast country (2.5 million square km); this is a richly populated country (22 million people); this is a country with a multitude of races, creeds, religions, languages and dialects. We have Negroes in the south and some parts of the west; there are Arabs in the west and there is a mixture in the middle. There are Hamatics in the east and Nubians in the north. Among us there are believers in Islam and Christianity, paganism and believers in other things.

Also, and more important still, we alone suffered from our wounds for 17 years; during all these years there was war and fighting and even internecine fighting. We reached a formula for coexistence under which the cultural characteristics of each people are recognized. We all are under the aegis of Arab culture. Nobody objects to our Arab affiliation and nobody objects to our African affiliation.

[Question] Why do you believe that participation by the opposition means working against all this?

[Answer] It means that Arab unity will be imposed on us from abroad which would undermine the unity of Sudan. We need more than just time to achieve integration inside the Sudanese homeland. We need time to link vast Sudan with road networks, effective communications and integrated production projects. We need to support the local cultures on the one hand and achieve national cultural homogeneity on the other. Therefore, I am not one of those who say that my nation lives at the expense of my homeland. Rather I would say that I love my homeland because I love my nation. Therefore, the Arab nation would not benefit from adding parts of Sudan to it. In fact, a fragmented Sudan would be a great burden on it.

[Question] Why do you refuse their participation?

[Answer] Did we refuse the principle of participation? The reverse is the truth. We have invited them to participate on the largest possible scale. We have invited them as an act of national reconciliation, which was an earthquake in the real sense of the word.

The call for national reconciliation in 1977 came 1 year after the Libyan invasion of Sudan in July 1976. All those we invited to reconciliation and indeed all those who responded to the call were those who took part in the invasion, despite that what they committed was not invasion but murder.

The invasion was an attempt to subject the will of one nation to another nation by force of arms, mercenaries, and forces of darkness. Nevertheless, within 1 year of the invasion I called for national reconciliation and some responded. I recall the moment of reunion with As-Sadiq al-Mahdi in Port Sudan. It was an unforgettable moment. This is despite what he says nowadays about repression and dictatorship in Sudan.

I agreed with him that sincere Sudanese efforts should be devoted to plugging the gaps through which the enemy and the covetous ones may penetrate. Therefore, I accept reconciliation and -- more than that -- I accept participation, but within the existing constitution and the institutions and laws in force.

[Question] Why are their demands not realized?

[Answer] He demands a single political system, something that exists. He demands provincial rule, something which is being applied. He demands a role for the army in national action. The constitution ensures that the army is part of the system.

What then is the difference about? What was the dispute about in the first place, particularly since it led to boodshed and to the fall of martyrs.

[Question] You are now looking into amending the Sudanese constitution and especially the wide powers the present constitution gives to the president. Are you willing, Mr President, to accept a reduction of these powers and their transferance to the judicial and legislative authorities?

[Answer] I wish you had first perused the constitution, one of whose provisions says that Sudan is ruled by a decentralized system, which means that constitutionally powers are not centered in the hands of the president and not even in the capital from which he exercises his powers. For example, there is currently an uproar over the abolition of the Ministry of Culture and Information, whose abolition has confirmed the principle of decentralization. Accordingly, radio and television have become an independent authority and SUNA has also become an independent authority. Every newspaper functions under the supervision of an independent board of administration and independent editorial board. There is no longer any reason for central control by the Ministry of Culture and Information, some of whose technical units, such as photography and others, have been transferred to the Ministry of the Interior. Those who do not know Sudan would think that this measure is repression of thought and information.

As I have already told you, we now have six provincial governments and six provincial people's councils. Each of these governments exercises its powers which they derive from the central ministry. More of these ministries will be abolished so that they will not restrict the provincial ministries in exercising their powers.

The objective we are seeking and which, God willing, we will attain is to have only three central ministries, which are defense, finance and planning, and foreign affairs. All the rest will be the prerogative of the provincial ministries.

Moreover, the provincial governors will be elected and will also be able to delegate their powers to their aides. Therefore, the talk about amending the constitution with regard to the powers of the president is not only far from reality but also far from the truth as well. With regard to my role in amending the constitution, I have no say in the matter as the amendment of the constitution can be done only at the request of two-thirds of the National People's Assembly members, and ratification of the amendment also requires the approval of two-thirds of the same assembly.

[Question] But some media say that what is happening is in certain cases unconstitutional.

[Answer] This is not true. What is happening now in Sudan is with the will of the masses. A written constitution has been laid down; this constitution organizes life in Sudan. It is not something absolute. Within the constitution there are provisions by which it can be amended. Whoever wants to amend the constitution within its own provisions can do that. There is the People's Assembly, whether it is called the consultative assembly or parliament or national assembly as in some other countries. It is a chamber of deputies. We have even gone further than that, which is the reason why many people have become angry -- because it takes power away from them. There is no longer centralization in government, and Khartoum is no longer the basis of the administration. There are governments and chambers of deputies and so it has become difficult for an individual to come to Khartoum and claim that he rules Sudan or to occupy a bridge or a radio station in Khartoum and say: I have occupied Sudan.

We have established six governments and in the future there may be more if the people wish to expand participation in government.

[Question] Does this mean, Mr President, that you are determined to adopt the idea of dividing the southern region into five provinces or administrative units?

[Answer] Under the constitution as president I am supposed to help in the decentralization of rule in Sudan. I have done this in the north and previously I did it in the south, where I granted them self-rule under the Addis Ababa agreement. I have received thousands of requests from the south, including from Brother (Joseph Lago), who signed the Addis Ababa agreement with me, demanding more decentralization in the south through the establishment of either three or six provinces, as they wish. I am doing this in accordance with the constitution and the Addis Ababa agreement which has become part of it. It is the assembly [not further specified] that will decide whether to have a referendum or not. If there is agreement by three-fourths of the members we will hold a referendum. We will appoint a committee which will study this subject, exactly as happened in the case of the north, where the study took about 4 or 5 years to complete until we reached the final form.

[Question] But there are those who believe that the aim behind this is an attempt to fragment and divide the south so as to tighten control over it.

[Answer] This is a false allegation because the strength of southern Sudan stems from its cohesion with the north. The south has no strength. Up to now the north has been giving away part of its resources to southern Sudan because the south is not particularly productive. Therefore, the south depends entirely on trained manpower from the north to work in the area, whether in education or in medical services.

The north cares for Sudan's unity more than anything else and the inhabitants of the south care more for unity because they realize the danger of their separation from the north. Some of the educated persons in the south are devious where a certain problem is concerned, such as the problem of centralization. The citizens have asked for the expansion of decentralization, and when these people found that things were being done legally, they resorted to their previous accusations -- that the north wants to turn the southern province into an Arab province and that the north wants to impose Islam on the south.

[Question] Why is this so, Mr President?

[Answer] Because they want to win the sympathy of churches abroad. Even the churches cannot give enought aid to the people in the south because they are hungry, like people of Romania and elsewhere. [sentence as published] We refuse this. I can say that we in Sudan so far have not experienced an economic or food crisis that can be described as difficult.

[Question] What sort of [constitutional] amendment does Your Excellency deem necessary to keep abreast of Sudan's present conditions?

[Answer] I do not see any need for any amendments. All we need to do is to balance the balance of payments like any other country in the world. We should export more than we import and consume less then we produce so that we will have a surplus in development and production. Therefore, we will go ahead with reducing consumption and increasing production.

[Question] The foreign media, Mr President, have described some of your decisions as arbitrary, particularly with regard to the dismissal of a large number of judges, officers and others. Is there any excuse for this of which the people are not aware?

[Answer] I do not understand what you mean by foreign media. But I understand from the rest of the question that you mean the media that are hostile to Sudan, that is, some of the Arab papers published abroad whose financial backing I know. Their activity cannot be described as media activity but as hostile activity. They are a new version of the radio broadcasts of Ahmad Sa'id [formerly of Cairo Voice of the Arabs] in the 1960's and of Al-Mahdawi [of Iraq's 'Abd al-Karim Qasim' regime]

The talk about arbitrary decisions being made in Sudan is ridiculous. One can sympathize with Arab citizens everywhere; these citizens daily see mass killing in some Arab countries and executions without trial in other places, but not in Sudan. They also see the persecution of opponents abroad and how they are not even allowed to be buried in their own country, and yet they speak about arbitrary decisions in Sudan.

I admit publicly that student demonstrations were staged in some Sudanese towns when the sugar subsidy was withdrawn, but I challenge those who speak of repression to show us one place, apart from Sudan, where no such demonstrations take place.

No one asks or wants to ask about the Sudanese Army regulations that provide for retiring officers after a certain period of service in a senior post so as to give an opportunity for others to get promoted. Those who were retired were only 25 officers in a big army. Is this an arbitrary measure? If this is so, despite everything, then I am no different from other army commanders in the world and will therefore remain despotic. As for the question of the judiciary, there is only one comment: This is a lie.

SSU ISSUES STATEMENT ON NATIONAL UNITY DAY

JN030955 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Mar (SUNA) -- Secretariat of the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU) issued yesterday a statement on the tenth anniversary of the national unity day.

The statement said the overall unity is still one of the revolution's strategic goals and that Addis Ababa (?accord) is regarded as vital proof of the revolution's sincerity and seriousness. It added that national unity had been a positive democratic participation as well as an economic and social development in which May revolution had fought its noblest campaign to stress the identity of the nation and its unity. The statement assured that with determination and deliberate efforts the revolution is proceeding in realizing all the goals and aspirations of the nation.

PRESIDENT ISSUES ORDERS ON ARMY DUTIES

JN032200 Khartoum SUNA in English 1735 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Texr] Khartoum, 3 Mar (SUNA) -- President of the republic and defence minister, Field Martial [as received] Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, issued here today two command orders concerning the duties of the armed forces in the current phase, and the implication of national unity anniversary.

Order (1) dealt with the strategic responsibilities connected with action within the armed forces and the responsibilities related to the role of the armed forces in the national action arena.

Order (1) confirmed that the armed forces are the vanguard which burdened the responsibility of erupting the revolution and that they burden the responsibility of protecting the objectives and achievements of the revolution and that they were participants of the alliance, forces in general national action, and that they surpassed the alliance forces by gaining the honour of defending the unity and territory.

Order (1) called for the commitment to discipline and the honour of belonging so as to face the counter psychological warfare being planned for by hired internal forces, and ambitious regional and international forces.

Order (1) referred that the primary war principles direct the counter psychological warfare towards the actualization of four aims: raising suspension over the achievements attained and the effectiveness of the achievement to lessen confidence, curtailing achievement to the extent of denial and treating it as a propaganda, and augmenting the obstacles that face the progress of achievement in a way that saps self-confidence.

Order (1) stated that the new phase that the armed forces were coming through was inseparable from the procession which May revolution staged to actualize comprehensive development, and that the armed forces were demanded beside its basic role, to stand as a model in the arena of development action.

Order (2) dealt with the implication of national unity which the country is celebrating today. If confirmed the role played by the armed forces in May revolution which proceeded towards emancipating the country from the grip of fragmentation and segregation through signing the Addis Ababa agreement and the return to peace.

Order (2) said that peace and stability in the southern Sudan and the comprehensive unity confirmed by regional government which the country practices increases the role of the armed forces, as an upper institution, in detering any attempt directed against the unity of [sentence incomplete]

The order added that Sudan was almost the only model of ethnic, racial, and cultural coexistence in the Third World, where as other national entities in Africa and the Arab world are experiencing the tragedy of sectorial and ethnic disintegration.

ORGANIZATIONS CONDEMN 28 FEB EXPLOSION

JN031001 Khartoum SUNA in English 0925 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Mar (SUNA) -- The General Federation of Sudanese Workers Trade Unions, the Employees and Professionals Union, the Khartoum Province, SSU Secretariat and the Sudanese Youth Association in Khartoum Province yesterday issued statements condemning the Sunday attempt to blow up the oil depot at El Shajarah.

The statements said the target of the attempt was the future of the Sudanese economy and that such mean conspiracies were contradictory to the morals and values of the Sudanese people.

The statements called upon mass organizations and their leaders and the entire population to monitor plotters and to trace suspects. The organizations lauded the role of security men in guarding the people, the country and the revolution against all cowardly conspiracies.

TUNISIA

BOURGUIBA RECEIVES AL-QADHDHAFI INVITATION

LD031744 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Tunis, 3 Mar (TAP) -- Col Mu'ammar al-Qahdhdafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, has invited President Habib Bourguiba to visit the jamahiriyah. The invitation came in a telegram he sent to him at the conclusion of his Tunisian visit 23 - 27 February.

In his telegram, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi expressed his appreciation for the fraternal welcome accorded to him by President Habib Bourguiba and the Tunisian Government and people and his satisfaction at the fruitful results of this visit which he regards as successful, judged by any standards.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi undermined the determination of the jamahiriyah to open up a new page in Tunisian-Libyan relations implementing everything agreed upon during this visit, pointing out again that the complementary economies of the two countries will be the cornerstone for the future of their relations and expressing the hope that contacts will continue between officials of the two countries at various levels.

Ambassador Appointed

NC031446 Paris AFP in English 1427 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Tunis, 3 Mar (AFP) -- Libya has agreed to the nomination of a Tunisian ambassador in Tripoli after more than two years of cool relations in which representation in both countries was cut to charge d'affaires level. Tunisia recalled its ambassador following the attack on the town of Qafsah in January 1980 by Tunisian exiles reportedly trained in Libya.

The appointment of Mohamed Jenifane as ambassador to Tripoli, announced officially today, is expected to be followed by a reciprocal move from Libya.

The development comes after a visit to Tunis last week by Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who agreed with Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba to "turn the page" on past differences between the two north African neighbours and resume cooperation.

Mr Jenifane, 47, is a former diplomat in the Tunisian Embassy in Baghdad and at the Arab League headquarters in Tunis. In July 1980 he was appointed Tunisian ambassador to Lebanon.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

FAILED COUP REPORTED, DENIED BY GOVERNMENT

NC040625 Paris AFP in English 0615 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Bangui, 4 Mar (AFP) -- A failed coup in the Central African Republic was reported here Wednesday night by the military regime's information minister, but head of state General Andre Kolingba disowned the allegation shortly afterwards.

Just before Radio Bangui broadcasts were to end as usual at midnight (2300 GMT), Information Minister Brigadier Francois Bozize apparently burst into the studio and announced that an attempted coup d'etat by the gendarmerie that evening had been foiled.

Ten minutes later, Gendarmerie Commander Colonel Diallo broadcast a denial of any involvement, and affirmed that the armed forces were loyal to Gen Kolingba. He asked military personnel to return to barracks.

Gen Kolingba then made a brief statement on the radio. He said it was regrettable that Brig Bozize, "who has my trust," could have made such a statement.

"It is a matter concerning military people, and has nothing to do with the Central African people," Gen Kolingba said. He added that he intended to maintain order in the country "whatever the price".

As the national radio then closed down for the night, the streets of this capital were calm. Soldiers were on guard duty at key points, but that has been a normal sight since Gen Kolingba last September took power by persuading civilian President David Dacko and his government to step down in favour of the military. Mr Dacko resigned, citing ill health.

There were no extra military patrols, and traffic at the international airport was normal.

Sources said it seemed that some agitators had tried unsuccessfully early in the evening to whip up an uprising among the populace.

It proved impossible to contact the information minister after broadcast about the alleged coup. He had not returned home. Brig Bozize was an aide de camp to ousted Emperor Bokassa. He was then defence minister in the Dacko government of 1980-81. Mr Dacko had toppled the self-crowned emperor in a French-backed coup in September 1979. After his own bloodlessly enforced ouster last year, party politics were banned, and Gen Kolingba, naming himself head of state, defence minister and head of a 23-member military committee of National Recovery, appointed a cabinet of 18 officers. He was expected to broadcast more fully about yesterday's incidents when the radio resumed programmes at 0500 GMT Thursday morning.

INFORMATION MINISTER BLAMED

AB041000 Paris AFP in French 0916 GMT 4 Mar 82

[Text] Paris, 4 Mar (AFP) -- CAR Information and Culture Minister Gen Francois Bozize is believed to be responsible for the attempted coup d'etate last night in Bangui, informed sources indicated on Thrusday morning in Paris.

The same sources added that General Bozize reportedly seized the radio station at about 2300 Wednesday and forced it to broadcast a message accusing head of state Gen Andre Kolingba of wanting to impose "his domination" on the CAR people." The radio station was reportedly recaptured a few minutes later by presidential guards, the sources indicated.

General Bozize created some confusion in the CAR capital by his radio broadcast accusing the gendarmerie of being responsible for this attempted coup. However, a few minutes later Gendarmerie Commander Colonel Diallo denied any participation by his men in the attempt and added that the armed forces remained faithful to President Kolingba. General Kolingba then expressed support for Colonel Diallo by appearing personally on television and saying that he "regretted" his information minister's statement. "It is a matter concerning military people and his nothing to do with the CAR people," he added.

ZAIRE

FIRST STATE COMMISSIONER RECEIVES DPRK EMISSARY

AB031506 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] The first state commissioner received a DPRK emissary this morning. He answered questions put to him by [name indistinct].

[Begin recording] The mission of our delegation is to deliver fraternal greetings and a message from the comrade militant and great leader of the Korean people to his Excellency President Mobutu Sese Seko.

[Question] May we know the contents of this message?

[Answer] I do not know the contents. It is only the founding president, Mobutu Sese Seko, who knows the contents of this message.

[Question] Is there any particular field of cooperation between the DPRK and Zaire?

[Answer] I can simply tell you that relations of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples are excellent. I also hope that these relations will be further strengthened. For our part, we will continue in our efforts to further strengthen these relations. [end recording]

IVORY COAST

COMMUNIQUE ON MEETING, UNIVERSITY REOPENING

AB031135 Abidjan Domestic Television Service in French 2130 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Communique issued on 2 March in Abidjan by the Executive Committee of the Ivory Coast Democratic Party-African Democratic Rally at the end of the national council meeting]

[Excerpts] (?After the first national council meeting) on 26 February 1982, the president His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, chairman of the party, presided today, 2 March 1982, over the meeting of the national council extended to members of the government, the National Assembly, the social and economic council, prefects and subprefects, mayors, representatives of the General Union of Ivory Coast Workers [UGTCI] and representatives of the National Union Guardians of Pupils and Students of the Ivory Coast [UNAPEECI].

After the brilliant account of the party chairman, the various political, administrative and trade union leaders invited to this working session were called upon to speak. Once again, the RDA [African Democratic Rally] chairman, always ready to listen to party militants, gave the latter the chance to give their views on the events we are experiencing. Thus, in turns, spokesmen for the UNAPEECI, UGTCI, the mayors, the social and economic council, the deputies, the prefects and subprefects and the secretaries general of subsections of the party expressed their views.

In their remarks, they expressed surprise at the lack of correlation between the material and moral situation of the lecturers and students and their present actions and at the nonutilization of dialogue which has proved useful on several occasions in the Ivory Coast. Consequently, they unanimously condemn all troublemakers wherever they may be and they approve all measures taken by the party to cope with the situation created thereby.

However, in the higher interests of the country, and having noticed that this agitation is the work of a minority of lecturers and a small minority of students whose natural generosity was abused, various speakers demanded that measures should be taken that do not punish the great majority of lecturers and the whole student body which, concerned with the country's future, did not join in the agitation.

The Ivorian people are mature and, as such, they have the right to information enabling them to correctly assess the events we are experiencing. This being so, after hearing and analyzing the recommendations of the spokesmen of the various bodies in the higher interest of the country and having heard once again that the trouble we are going through is the work of only an active minority which should in no way eclipse or compromise the future of the sensible majority, the party chairman, His Excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny, president of the republic, first of all, wants to congratulate warmly the Ivorian people for the scorn with which they treated the call for uprising launched by a handful of irresponsible people. He is also happy about the sincerity of the spokesmen and the sense of responsibility which marked the various opinions. The unity of all Ivorians being an indispensable prerequisite for national reconstruction, he noted the convergence of views expressed by the prefects and subprefects and the secretaries general of subsections of the party and decided that very soon he will hold a working session with both the Political Bureau and prefects, subprefects, deputies and secretaries general of party subsections in order to create conditions for a more harmonious collaboration and greater confidence in one another.

Concerning the events about the university itself, the party chairman and head of state, responding to the unanimous call for clemency by the militants, has made the following decisions.

First, concerning the students: The reopening of the national university and the institutions of higher learning in Abidjan with the resumption classes on Thursday, 4 March 1982; the reopening of hostels and unversity residences; the restoration of stipends for higher education students with backpay; the abolition of all clubs and associations of the university; and the abolition of the student newspaper -- CAMPUS INFO -- as well as the students program on the National Broadcasting Corporation.

Secondly, concerning the lecturers: The chairman of the party and head of state order lecturers of institutions of higher learning to go back to work immediately on Thursday, 4 March 1982; restores the salaries and benefits of lecturers of institutions of higher learning with backpay, but reaffirms the dissolution of the National Union of University Teachers and Research Workers [SYNARES]. The party also prohibits the organization of any conference of political nature on the campus, in the hostels and residences of the university.

At the requests of various spokesmen, investigations will continue to determine responsibility for the events so that at the appropriate time, the necessary cleansing and purification measures can be taken.

Students Deaths Denied

AB031512 Paris AFP in English 1427 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Abidjan, 3 Mar (AFP) -- The Ivory Coast's sole political party has denied rumours that two students died in unrest at the unversity and in schools here.

A statement from the Democratic Party Political Bureau said 1,034 students had been arrested during various demonstrations in recent weeks and that they had since been handed over to their families. The unrest was sparked by cancellation of a lecture on youth and democracy.

NIGERIA

GHANA'S RAWLINGS REQUESTS 'URGENT MEETING'

AB031150 Lagos NAN in English 1145 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Lagos, 3 Mar (NAN) -- Ghana's military head of state, Flt Lt. Jerry Rawlings, has requested an "urgent meeting" with President Shehu Shagari in Lagos, a reliable source close to the Ministry of External Affairs disclosed today.

The source told the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA that Flt.Lt.Rawlings wanted an early date fixed for the meeting to enable him to discuss "important issues" with President Shagari. The source said that the message was brought to Lagos yesterday through the Nigerian high commission in Accra.

Two months ago, Flt Lt. Rawlings sent a five-man delegation to Lagos to explain the situation in Ghana to the Nigerian authorities.

COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH BULGARIA

AB021844 Lagos NAN in English 1740 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Lagos,2 Mar (NAN) -- Nigeria and Bulgaria today in Lagos signed a bilateral agreement on cultural and educational co-operation.

The minister of social development, youth, sports and culture, Mr. Adebisi Ogedengbe, who signed on behalf of Nigeria, said that similar agreement, signed seven years ago, had been very fruitful. Mr Ogedengbe said that an example of the concrete proof of our collaboration is the construction of the national theatre which hosted the second world black and African festival of arts and culture (FESTAC) in 1977.

CROSS RIVER STATE TO SIGN AGREEMENT WITH CSSR

AB031619 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Czechoslovakia has agreed to enter into a technical agreement with the Cross River State Government. The country's envoy to Nigeria, Mr Evzen Vacek, made this known to Governor Clement Isong during a courtesy call on him in Calabar yesterday. The ambassador remarked that there was a need to enhance the level of cooperation already existing between both sides.

Responding, Governor Isong expressed appreciation for the desire of the Czechoslovaks to sign the technical agreement with his administration.

UPPER VOLTA

DPRK'S HO TAM MEETS ZERBO, SPEAKS TO PRESS

AB262112 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Feb 82

[Text] Head of state Col Saye Zerbo this afternoon received at the presidency His Excellency Ho Tam, DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs. The DPRK foreign minister, it will be recalled, has been in our country since yesterday. At the end of his audience, His Excellency Ho Tam described their discussions to our reporter, Abibata d'Embele:

[Begin recording -- Korean fading into French translation] We have just held talks with His Excellency President Zerbo, the emminent leader of the Voltan people. We have good impressions. We had very fruitful discussions.

[Question] In which fields does your country intend to develop its cooperation with Upper Volta?

[Answer] In spite of the long geographical distance separating the two countries, relations of friendship and cooperation between the DPRK and Upper Volta have been good for a long time. Relations of friendship and cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and other fields have been strengthened. In the audience with his excellency the president, these issues came up for discussion and we were in full agreement.

[Question] There is much talk about the reunification of the two Koreas. Could we have more details on this?

[Answer] As you are well aware, our people now are suffering from the pangs of the division of the country. Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our people, already presented guidelines for the reunification of the country on several occasions. Particularly during the Sixth Congress of the Korean Workers Party, Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader, presented a new proposal for the reunification of our country. This new proposal is geared to creating the confederal democratic republic of Korea, embodying the north and south of our country. It is a realistic and just proposal which reflects the realities in our country. [end recording]

Ends Visit 1 Mar

AB011452 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 1 Mar 82

[Text] Having ended his visit to our country, His Excellency Ho Tam, vice premier and minister of foreign affairs of the DPRK left Ouagadougou late this morning. Shortly before his departure, his excellency paid a courtesy call on Col Saye Zerbo, head of state.

The Korean foreign minister was accompanied by the DPRK ambassador, His Excellency Kim Yong-yong, during his audience with the president. At the end of the audience, His Excellency Ho Tam explained to the press the subject of his conversation with the head of state.

[Begin recording] Before leaving your country, here we are after being received for the second time by His Excellency President Zerbo, the eminent leader of your people. I can say that we have successfully accomplished the mission given to us by Comrade Kim Il-song thanks to the personal attention of his excellency, the distinguished President Zerbo. During our talks, we thanked him for his attention and assistance and, on our return home, we will transmit to Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our people, fraternal greetings from President Zerbo and his wishes for the success of the great efforts being made by Comrade Kim Il-song toward the reunification of our fatherland.

[Question] You are going to leave Upper Volta in a few hours. What can we say has been achieved by this 5-day visit to our country?

[Answer] Our stay in your country has been short but we had the opportunity to admire the courageous people of Upper Volta who are struggling for social progress and the prosperity of the country under the enlightened leadership of His Excellency Saye Zerbo. We are convinced that the results achieved are due to the success of the clearsighted policy of His Excellency Saye Zerbo and to the soundness of his domestic and foreign policy. We are convinced that the Upper Voltan people, firmly united around his excellency the president, will march with confidence toward progress. We take this opportunity to wish the brotherly people of Upper Volta full success in their struggle to create a new society, to achieve national prosperity and the total liberation of the African Continent.

ANGOLA

DPRK'S PAK SONG-CHOL ARRIVES IN LUANDA 2 MAR

AB021808 Luanda ANGOP in Portuguese 1640 GMT 2 Mar 82

[Text] Luanda, 2 Mar (ANGOP) -- Pak Song-chol, vice president of the DPRK, arrived in Luanda on Tuesday at the head of a delegation paying a friendly visit to Angola.

On his arrival, the Korean leader said relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries have developed further since the significant meeting between the Korean president, Kim Il-song, and Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos.

Pak Song-chol said he is happy to observe during his visit the achievements of the Angolan people in their struggle to repel the constant machinations, aggression, subversion and sabotage of the South African racists, as well as to staunchly defend their revolutionary accomplishments and build a flourishing and prosperous Angola.

During its visit to Angola, the delegation headed by Pak Song-chol will exchange views with the Angolan leaders on a number of subjects of mutual interest, including prospects for greater consolidation and development of friendly relations between Korea and Angola.

The Korean vice president expressed profound gratitude to the government and people of Angola for their support and solidarity with the just cause of the Korean people to foil the "two Koreas" secessionist plot, to achieve the withdrawal of U.S. troops from South Korea and to realize the reunification of the motherland.

Alexandro Rodrigues Kito, member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party and minister of interior, and Venancio de Moura, vice minister of foreign affairs, welcomed the Korean delegation. The Korean vice president was accompanied by his deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Dos Santos Reception

EA031732 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Excerpts] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, yesterday in Luanda received a personal message from Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK. The message was delivered by DPRK Vice President Pak Song-chol during an audience at the presidential palace.

A message reaffirming the fraternal friendship binding the peoples of Angola and Korea since the struggle for national liberation in our country was read at the 4 February International Airport. The message condemns continued acts of aggression perpetrated against our country by South African racists.

COOPERATION PROTOCOL SINGED WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA

AB031726 Luanda ANGOP in French 1630 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Luanda, 3 Mar (ANGOP) -- A cooperation protocol has just been signed between the People's Republic of Angola and Czechoslovakia at the end of talks held in Luanda since Monday between the CSSR and Angolan delegations led by Bento Ribeiro, Angolan minister of industry, and Bohumil Urban, CSSR minister of foreign trade.

The talks between the two delegations focused on the analysis of economic and technical cooperation between the two states. It should be pointed out that the two countries maintain relations of cooperation in various fields and that they have been intensified recently following the visit of the Angolan head of state to that country.

During the talks, the Angolan industry minister stressed that cooperation between the two countries is developing satisfactorily in various areas. Because, he added, with this meeting, "we are sure that our cooperation ties will be strengthened for the benefit of our two peoples."

The CSSR foreign trade minister has been in the Angolan capital since last Saturday.

MOZAMBIQUE

MACHEL MENTIONS ARMED BANDITS AT CHIBUTO RALLY

EA031732 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Samora Moises Machel, president of FRELIMO and of the People's Republic of Mozambique, visited Chibuto District yesterday afternoon following his visit to the Manjacaze District where he presided over a rally yesterday morning. Here, the head of the state was once again warmly received by the population.

Addressing a mass rally, President Samora Machel started by reminding the people about their past suffering -- oppression and humiliation -- inflicted on them by Portuguese colonialism.

Elsewhere in his speech, the supreme leader of the Mozambique revolution recalled that Chibuto is a land of many heroes. However, President Samora Machel added he had already heard that armed bandits are appearing in some areas. To this effect, he said, if the bandits come to Chibuto it will be an insult to Gungunhana and Chaimite [Mozambique freedom fighters]. It would mean we do not exist.

Those present at the meeting in Chibuto also asked for arms from the head of state to drive out the bandits.

CSSR TRADE MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS 3 MAR

EA032236 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Bohumil Urban minister of foreign trade of the CSSR arrived in Maputo this afternoon to participate in the talks of the Mozambique-Czechoslovak joint commission. Czechoslovakia cooperates with our country in industry and geology.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO COMMUNIQUE SAYS OKAHO BASE DESTROYED

AB031707 Luanda ANGOP in French 1649 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Luanda, 3 Mar (ANGOP) -- According to a communique issued in Luanda on Wednesday, SWAPO fighters last Saturday destroyed the Okaho military base, the biggest in Namibia, and this resulted in more than 100 dead and wounded among the South African occupational forces.

During the same operation, the communique adds, SWAPO seized a large quantity of military equipment including four 60 mm and one 80 mm mortars.

On the other hand, on 24 February, the Namibian patriots laid in ambush for a patrol of South African cavalry troops backed by helicopters. They killed all 28 soldiers and 15 horses; 13 other horses were captured and three helicopters destroyed, the communique concludes.

SOUTH AFRICA

16 MEMBERS OF NATIONAL PARTY CAUCUS EXPELLED

LD040022 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Sixteen members of the ruling South African National Party's parliamentary caucus have been expelled. The party's chief whip, Mr Alex van Breda, said 6 of the original 22 MP's who had refused to support a motion of confidence in the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, at last week's caucus meeting had decided to do so and would remain members of the caucus. Among those expelled are the former leader of the Transvaal Province National Party and minister of state administration, Dr A.P. Treurnicht, and the former minister of education and training, Dr Ferdie Hartzenberg.

FEDERAL PARTY WINS JOHANNESBURG ELECTIONS

NC032245 Paris AFP in English 2230 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] Johannesburg, 4 Mar (AFP) -- The Progressive Federal Party took control of Johannesburg in yesterday's municipal elections and wrested power from the ruling National Party, it was reported today.

According to the reports, the PFP have also wrested control from the National Party in Randburg and Sandton -- two municipal areas outside Johannesburg.

The PFP's success means, according to observers, that they will open swimming pools and all other public amenities to all races, in defiance of the South African Government's apartheid policy.

ZAMBIA

ZAIRE REOPENS BORDER FOLLOWING NEGOTIATIONS

CA031852 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 3 Mar 82

[Text] A report from Mufulira said that Zaire has reopened its border at Mukabo following tense negotiations between Zambia and Zairian officials at the border. The border, which was closed on Sunday at 6 hours [as heard], was reopened at noon today after a 1-hour meeting between a nine-man Mufulira district party and government delegation led by Governor Mr (Boyd Ksaunga) and a Zairian team headed by chief immigration officer at the border, Mr (Kainid Shava).

Hundreds of stranded Zambian travelers using the Pedicle road, and starving Zairians, lauded the reopening of the border when immigration officials on either side opened the barrier, witnessed by members of the two delegations.